# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1108.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1849.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1849.

#### REVIEWS

English Medieval Embroidery. Parker. THE history of "fine needlework" has never yet received the attention which it deserves,-whether viewed as indicating the progress of civili-zation, or as affording illustrations not merely of the tastes and habits of the respective nations but of the state of the arts among them. Per-haps because "fine needlework" has in these later days been viewed as an exclusively female occupation, learned antiquaries have deemed it worthy of small notice,—although, to whatever apocryphal personage its invention may have been assigned, the earliest workers of em-broidery were unquestionably men. "It would broadery were unquestionary men. The wound be unavailing to seek for the origin of this art in Great Britain," says the author before us, with great simplicity. We should think so,—since the art of the needle is as old as the Pyramids. In proof of its high antiquity he quotes Ezekiel; but it is strange that the minute de-scription of the making of the Tabernacle, full nine hundred years earlier, did not occur to him, -where, too, the embroiderers are expressly stated to have been men. It was from Egypt, doubtless, that their general knowledge and skill were derived :- and from the same source the nations of classical antiquity learnt the art. It was, however, more extensively employed, and in consequence attained a greater perfection, among the nations more immediately bordering upon Egypt; since we find that the inhabitants of Phœnicia, from a very early period, classed embroidered garments among their very choicest stores of merchandise. This eminence in "fine needlework" seems to have characterized their descendants down to Christian times; and from them, through the medium of Byzantium, we have little doubt, mediæval Europe received its first lessons. The illu-minated book of the Gospels and the broidered vestment were alike brought from the capital of Eastern Christendom; but the ruder inhabitants of the West, while they emulated—and ere long successfully—the richness and delicacy of the copy, added a grace and a spirit to which the Byzantine artist failed to attain.

England from a very early period was cele-brated for its superiority both in weaving and in embroidery. Aldhelm, who flourished at the commencement of the seventh century, in his work addressed to the nuns under the care of the Abbess Hildelitha makes frequent allusions to richly broidered garments; he also, in one of his Latin poems, speaks of "the shuttles filled not with purple only, but with various colours, moved here and there among the thick spreading threads." His biographer informs us that he had a robe "made of most delicate purple thread, adorned with black circles and figures of peacocks." This was not improbably the work of convent maidens; since we find a contemporary Council exhorting the nuns to spend their time rather in reading and singing "than in weaving and working gar-ments of pride in diversified colours." But although clerical authority looked forbiddingly on these arts when practised by the recluse, the female laity were rather encouraged to pursue them; and we find Dunstan exercising his pictorial skill on a pattern for a robe which a lady of his acquaintance was about to embroider. Several of the Saxon queens distinguished themselves in this art, -and Editha, the wife of the Confessor, is related to have worked his coronation robes.

Before the Norman Conquest England had become celebrated on the Continent for her some English ecclesiastics, that he expressed and the similarity of the word to "orfrays" has

fine needlework, as much as for her skill in goldsmiths' work,—and the term "opus Angli-canum" was applied to the former. The Conqueror's chaplain, William of Poictiers, tells us of the astonishment which the exquisitely embroidered robes of the Saxon hostages excited in the Normans; and the high estimation in which Matilda held English needlework is seen in her bequest to the Abbey of the Holy Trinity at Caen of her "tunic worked at Winchester by Alderet's wife and the mantle worked in gold." That gold embroidery was in great request at this time we have many proofs; but the writer of the little work before us is in error when he states that this was exclusively what was termed "opus Anglicanum" and that "orfrais" were gold embroidery. These last ("aurifrisium, as termed by the monkish writers) were a kind of fringe and tassels. They are stated to have decked the corners of the splendid altar-cloth which Queen Emma gave to the monks of Ely, and to have hung down to the ground. They are often mentioned, too, as attached to the front of robes. They are represented in the metrical romances as decking the saddle and bridle-rein: and thus Queen Olympias, in the spirited romance of 'Alysaundre,' appears riding on her milk-white mule, trapped with gold and silk, and with-

Many a bell of sylvere shene, Yfastened on orfrays of mounde That hangen nighe unto the grounde.

In every species of silk and gold trimming our forefathers, even from Saxon times, were very skilful; and we are greatly inclined to believe that the borders which are always to be seen edging both mantle and tunic were not of embroidery, but woven or plaited. In later illuminations most elaborate specimens may be seen,—and also of various ornaments apparently formed of gold thread, displaying so much taste and richness of effect that we are scarcely surprised at that curious entry in Doomsday Book, how "Alvide the maiden holds half a hide of land," in Buckinghamshire, "which Godric, the sheriff, granted during his life, that she might teach his daughter to make orfrays." The expensive character of the decorations bestowed upon robes during the Middle Ages is often strikingly exhibited in passing notices of the chroniclers or in the royal mandates to the sheriffs. Thus Ailfred, of Reivesby, in the introduction to a stupid legend, tells us of "a certain noble matron in the city of London, who was accustomed to adorn vestments of royal richness with gold, and to beautify them with gems and with figures and foliage in various coloured needlework." When such expensive materials were employed and so much skill and care bestowed, we are less surprised to find that about this period the sheriffs of London paid on account of Elinor of Aquitaine the enormous sum of "fourscore pounds". for an embroidered robe for the queen.' sum, equal to nearly 1,400l. of present money, vividly illustrates the magnificent array of our ancient queens. Very beautiful work was also executed in convents. When the Abbot of St. Alban's, about the same time, sent a deputation, with choice speeches and choice presents, to congratulate Pope Adrian, who, from a humble scholar in the abbey-school, had attained to the chair of St. Peter, the aid of the Prioress Christina, of Markgate, was invoked; and she provided sandals of such matchless beauty and three mitres of such splendid work that they were considered the most valuable of all the presents. In the following century, Matthew Paris informs us, Innocent IV. was so struck with the beauty, and probably the value, of certain orfrays on the copes and mitres of

his determination to obtain some, as presents if possible, but if not, by purchase,—an emphatic proof of his admiration. The writer before us, in allusion to this, remarks that it is singular a Roman Pontiff, with such stores of rich church vestments, should have been thus struck with English work; and he gives the description of "the Imperial dalmatic," or "cope of St. Leo,"—one of the choicest specimens of ancient needlework, and supposed to be of the Byzantine school.—

"This very remarkable specimen of embroidery is laid upon a foundation of deep blue silk, having four different subjects on the shoulders, behind and in front, exhibiting, although taken from different actions, the glorification of the body of our Lord. The whole has been carefully wrought with gold tambour and silk, and the numerous figures, as many as fifty-four, surrounding the Redeemer, who sits enthroned on a rainbow in the centre, display simplicity and gracefulness of design. The field of the vestment is powdered with flowers and crosses of gold and silver, having the bottom enriched with a running floriated pattern. It has also a representation of paradise, wherein the flowers, carried by tigers of gold, are of emerald green, turquoise blue, and flame colour. Crosses of silver, cantoned with tears of silver alternately, are inserted in the flowing foliage at the edge. Other crosses within circles are also placed after the same rule, when of gold in medalions of silver, and when of silver in the reverse order. 'I do not apprehend,' says Lord Lindsay in his History of Christian Art, 'your being disappointed with the "Dalmatica di San Leone,' or your dissenting from my conclusion, that a master, a Michael Angelo I would almost say, then flourished at Byzantium.'"

Now, if the figures are delineated-that is, as far as needlework can do so—with any degree of spirit, (and this we suppose Lord Lindsay means by his allusion to Michael Angelo,) this alone would afford a strong presumption that the work was not Byzantine, since great delicacy of finish, but most servile tameness, characterize all the productions of that school. A date as early as the eighth century has been assigned to this splendid garment; but a French antiquary considers it to belong to the twelfth. The writer before us adds, "were we to describe the foliated pattern in architectural language which will be readily intelligible to all our readers, it would be by saying that it bears decidedly the impress of an Early English character." Now, when we bear in mind that such style of decoration was most unlikely to be adopted by a Byzantine embroiderer, and that we have actual proof of English needlework being deemed of sufficient beauty to be offered as a very acceptable present to the supreme Pontiff, we cannot resist the opinion that this dalmatica may after all be a splendid relic of that "opus Anglicanum" which would scarcely have received a specific name unless it had attracted especial admiration. The question might without much difficulty be decided by a careful comparison of the style of the figures and of the peculiar combinations of the ornamental parts with the English illuminations of the commencement of the thirteenth century.

During the whole of this century embroidery was in high estimation; and the haughty and luxurious Elinor of Provence, however much she might disdain the English nation, patronized willingly enough its fine embroidery and goldsmith's work. The precepts of this reign afford many curious illustrations of ancient needlework; and armorial bearings as ornaments for robes appear to have come into general use. These, however, were not always embroidered:—they were, as is frequently stated, of goldsmith's work. These were often termed "orfeveries;"

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probably been another cause of those mistakes | of the victories, the spoil, and the barbarism of | relating to the latter. The banner of white silk which Henry III. directs to be adorned with the Rood in gold orfrays, was doubtless an ecclesiastical banner; and such are frequently represented as being of "beaten gold" and richly fringed. This custom of having devices made in gold or silver, instead of actual embroidery, long continued. In the curious inventory of the plate and furniture of Queen Isabel (vide 'Ancient Kalendars'), we find, among the vestments for her chapel, one of "red velvet powdered with trefoils of goldsmith's another of blue powdered with gold lilies, and another with the arms of England and France in goldsmith's work. These entries are worthy of notice as showing how general the custom was, in gifts or bequests to the Church, to present, not-as many writers on church ornaments have thought-new plate or vestments, but what had been long used by the donors. These dresses, adorned with the lilies of France and the arms of France and England, had doubtless been worn by Isabel at many a high festival; and ancient wills abound in bequests not only of "fayre sylvere" standing cups and dishes for the high altar,—but of gowns to be cut up into copes and mantles to make coverings for the shrine, or perhaps a holiday petticoat for "our Ladye." We can assure the writer of this little work that the ladies of the Middle Ages were not so wholly devoted to the service of "holy mother church" as he seems to imagine; and that the expensive needlework which occupied so much of their time was first worn by themselves, and then transferred to her service. In the female convents, however, the nuns busied themselves with ecclesiastical embroidery,-not without many a wish that they could adorn themselves with their own fine needlework. And from many notices of Councils we find that they did; wearing "long-tailed gowns," worked in front, and richly broidered purses, — and even, as the Council of Oxford, in 1222, affirms, "thro' the wiles of the ancient enemy having needlework of gold or silver in their veils.

The stringent enactments which confined the poor nuns to the plain Benedictine black robe, or the coarse grey serge garment of the rule of St. Clare, was, however, rendered more vexations by the extraordinary splendour of apparel which was allowed to the officiating priests at the altar and to the prelates on all occasions. The bishops flaunted in their silken robes and embroidered copes and jewelled as well as broidered mitres,and could boast as extravagant apparel as the wealthiest lady at the court of our Plantagenets. The cope of red silk, the dispered and "precious cloth of gold" for tunic and dalmatica, and the mitre worth twelve hundred pounds of present money which the writer instances as given by Henry III. to the Bishop of Hereford, one of the most detested of his prelates, are proofs of this extravagance. We were rather amused to find Adam de Basing, the sheriff, placed in a list of gentlemen-embroiderers, because he is commanded to supply the before-mentioned rich silk garments; for as well might Reginald de Cornhill take his place as a general shopkeeper, because he is directed to supply figs and almonds, ginger and red herrings, for King John's Christmas feast. The case is, that Adam de Basing was a merchant, trading to the Mediterranean, and importing the beautiful woven,—perhaps also brocaded,—silks, the produce of Sicilian or even Saracen looms. The Saracens, however, find no favour in the eyes of our author, although it is certain that they cultivated his favorite needlework-embroidery, and never perpetrated the enormities, which he so earnestly denounces, of crochet or Berlin wool. What are we to say to remarks like the following :- "Who has not read

Omar, and contrasted the riches with the ignorance of the Caliphs?" The ignorance of the Caliphs! Why, to whom does Europe owe the preservation of ancient science, but to those illustrious men? Was it not, as an eloquent writer remarks, "under the banners of the Caliphs that civilization and knowledge came forth from their Oriental thrones, and marched with the language of Arabia into the almost benighted West?

That the Saracens were such stern iconoclasts seems to be the reason of our author's angry feeling; but really, when we remember the childish—and worse than childish—representations of things and persons too solemn to be caricatured, as they have often been, by mediæval artists, we feel as if we could almost believe that good taste had some share in their destruction. While we make this remark, we are far from forgetting the beautiful sculptured remains, which display not only correct taste, but a feeling so deep and poetic that it often triumphs over all defects of style, -or the exquisite illuminations from which many an artist might derive lessons of grace and loveliness: we would only protest against that blind admiration for all that belongs to the Middle Ages which among writers on "Church Ornaments" seems to be the ortho-

Now, in regard to Church needlework, which it is the especial object of this little book to recommend,—why in the present day should the needle be invoked to do what the pencil only can adequately effect? If fair ladies choose to employ themselves on pulpit-hangings or altarcloths, why not work the most beautiful flowers, or combine in endless variety those graceful foliaged patterns which prove the inexhaustible skill of the Gothic sculptor? How is it possible with floss silk, "gold passing," and whipcord, to represent "the human face divine"? disproportioned, wry-necked, squinting saints the specimens before us present! We have "our Lady," although sitting, measuring the same height as the two Kings of the East, who are standing,-and with an arm scarcely reaching to her girdle. Then, there is St. John, with toes longer than the general length of fingers; and St. Margaret, staring with all her might, and evidently paralytic. Strangely enough, animals scarcely display more correct drawing. There is an eagle, which is certainly a very strange bird, -half goose half griffin; and a lion, with two supplemental lengths of tail, a mane resembling a series of claws, grinning and squinting most awfully. The writer, with this specimen before his eyes, need not abuse "the degenerate taste which employs itself in wool working;" since we have seen, as doubtless he has, many a lion on a rug, worked in venerable cross-stitch and rug-stitch, far less of a caricature than this which "decorates" the altar-cloth of Steeple Ashton. Nor do these ancient specimens display better taste in supernatural objects. The dragons, so far as ugliness is concerned, are, however, quite in keeping; and had Sathanas taxed the skill of the worker, we doubt not that full justice would have been done to his horns and tail. We have, however, a strange pattern on plate No. 22; which at first sight we thought was intended for some batwinged demon, -but which weafterwards fancied was the six-handed goddess Kalee, especially as the grim face and head-dress closely resembled Hindoo sculpture. To our great surprise, however, we found it was intended for a cherub! -and that this frightful figure was of common occurrence on ecclesiastical vestments. In better drawing are the two angels on horseback which decorate the altar-cloth of Steeple Ashton; although we cannot greatly commend the taste which placed these celestial beings on stout and drew stark and stiff figures, should you do

horses, seeing that they are provided with good wings,—nor their very homely occupation of scraping on the violin. This altar-cloth of Steep Ashton is a most curious relic. It is adorned with the Crucifixion,—the martyrdoms of som dozen saints, each separated by a wreath leaves, apparently oak and ivy,—and a curion border of alternate foliage and animals. The little birds that are worked on the sides an probably "popinjays." After having amuse ourselves with these representations of living things, it is but just to express our commendation of the graceful and spirited patterns, chiefly from wood work, which occupy the plate from No. 12 to 19, and from 26 to 32. For many a secular purpose these, or combinations of them, will be found useful. The architecture details of the first plate give a good idea of the general character of more elaborate works; -an if armorial bearings or devices were substituted for figures, the effect would be improved.

After all, it is highly probable that none of the best specimens of Middle Age needlework have come down to us. In addition to the perishable nature of the material, the great value of their adornments-jewels, pearls, and delicate gold work-would render them objects of especial attraction to the covetous. We think therefore, those yet remaining, with one or two exceptions, were the copies by ruder hands, and in cheaper materials, of those exquisite fabrics on which the embroideress toiled for years together, and for which she received,-like Rose de Burford, for the precious con-sent by Queen Isabel to the Pope, and the executors of Catherine Lincoln for that still more precious one so richly embroidered and studded with large pearls, -more than a thousand pounds. The specimens of needlework given in the volume before us are indeed remarkably coarse:—flowers of far greater delicacy could be worked in common satin-stitch. Now, we can scarcely believe that our forefathers, accustomed to the exquisite delicacy and high finish of both their carvings and their illuminations, would have been contented with long stitches of thick gold thread fastened down with strong silk, and the edge, alike of leaf and flower, formed of "cord which was afterwards to be cast over (a guipure) with gold or silver tambour." Really, the embroidery samplers of the seventeent century display neater and more elaborate finish. We are disposed to think that these were the work of some male embroiderer, anxious to finish off a great deal of work in a short time and therefore willing to use those materials which would enable him to cover a large space quickly. Indeed, when we see in Elizabeth of York's accounts that her embroiderers, male and female, received only a groat a day, and sixteenpence a week board wages, although em-ployed on "the riche bedde" and the altarcloths, we shall find, allowing the utmost for the greater value of money then, that the calling of the embroiderer had greatly declined.

We have paid rather more attention to this little book than we at first intended; since we have been often vexed to find the admiration which has justly enough been awakened by the really beautiful remains of the Middle Ages degenerating into a blind imitation of every Middle Age defect. To those who look with superstitious reverence on every old piece of church carving, on every shred of old church needlework, argument would be vain; but to the intelligent young artist we would say,—why seek to perpetuate in the nineteenth century the false drawing of the eleventh and twelfth when the artists of the thirteenth and fourteenth did no such thing? Why, because the more

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the same? The artists who executed the beau-tiful sculptures at Lincoln and in the chapterhouse of York did not seek in the rude figures of earlier times for models;-nor did Clovio in his exquisite illuminations strive to imitate the predecessors of Cimabue.

Finally, to ladies meditating church needle-work, this little manual will prove very inter-esting; since, in addition to the essay, there is a "practical chapter," giving minute informa-tion respecting the orthodox stitch, in addition to the orthodox patterns,-together with minute directions how the altar-cloth must "hang perfeetly square, without any fold," and be made with "frontal and super-frontal" of best church relvet,—and also that "a great variety of eccle-siastical fringes may be had of Mrs. Beard, 287, Regent-street." All things being thus provided, it only remains for the fair devotees to set to work; while, as our parting advice, we would beg them, in the name of good taste, to limit their ambition to flowers, foliage, or "conventional patterns,"-eschewing, notwithstanding their recommendation by clerical authority, all squinting lions, all wry-necked and paralytic saints, all angels, even though on horseback, above all those demon-looking cherubim which, though embroidered with the greatest skill, aided by the richest floss silk, the brightest spangles, and the "best gold passing, at 10s. per ounce," can never be rendered "present-able" to an intelligent congregation.

Raphael; or, Pages of the Book of Life at Twenty. By Alphonse de Lamartine. Translated with the sanction of the Author. Parker.

WHILE M. Guizot has been putting doctrine and M. Thiers economy to press, — while M. Caussidière has been defending his barri-cades with an emission of ink and ill nature that has made wonderfully small noise,— while Madame Dudevant has been promul-gating edicts for M. Ledru Rollin,—while M. Clairville, the Scribe to the successors of Bertrand and Raton, has been making all the badauds and burghers of Paris laugh till they almost forgot heavy taxes and empty shops by his bitter ridicule of hyper-socialism,—M. de Lamartine, the most actively busy of the overturners, has found time and composure to give to the reading world his new manifesto also .-Whether 'Raphael' was written during the past year of doubts and delusions is another question. Should this prove to have been the case, the fact will merit being laid up among "the curiosities of literature." For 'Raphael' is neither Girondist, nor Cabet-ian, nor doctrinnaire -no tale, in short, on Miss Martineau's plan of illustrating political truth in fiction. It contains Technisms pointed truth in fection. It contains no word regarding the Empire or the Emperor's Eagle (at Boulogne or elsewhere),—not a scrap of anti-Bourbonism,—not a morsel of prophecy in emulation of the Solitary of Orval, nor of observation after the Solitary of the Harrise observation after the fashion of the Hermit of the Chaussée d'Antin and of the Flaneur in Paris, touching the destinies of the race of Orleans. 'Raphael' is neither more nor less than a lovetale, - the passion, sentiment, and sorrow of which are strong enough to withdraw the reader from politics, present, past and future. Thrones may fall,—Popes and Princes stagger to and fro, as though St. Vitus "ruled the hour;" but in this book M. de Lamartine cares to listen to nothing else than the beating of two hearts. It is strange that from such a source, after such a year, we should owe the only modern romance that can be named as belonging to the family of 'Werter' and the 'New Heloise'!

But 'Raphael'-though it be written with great sweetness, feeling, and intensity—will another to the spots that he has consecrated by his hardly carry the world in its train as trium-

phantly as did the love-stories with which we have mentioned it. It is not that our old earth is half a century wiser and colder than it was in the days when Goethe and Rousseau inflamed it. "There are degrees," as the Judge said to M. Dumas who declined to style himself dramatist because the grand Corneille had lived. M. de Lamartine, poet as he is, does not command the fervid strength of his predecessors. With almost as much passion as they and more purity than either, he does not manage so entirely to envelope us in the whirl-wind as they did. His tale must rank after

A word is claimed by its invention. We have given to 'Raphael' the palm of superior purity. A melancholy and dreamy youth belonging to an impoverished family, taking refuge from the world in a Savoyard valley, becomes enamoured of a mysterious Lady, who is the

inmate of a physician's house .-

"One day, however, on returning home earlier, and entering by the little garden-door near the arbour, I had a nearer view of the stranger, who was seated on a bench under the southern wall enjoying the warm rays of the sun. She thought herself alone, for she had not heard the sound of the door as I closed it behind me, and I could contemplate her unobserved. We were within twenty paces of each other, and were only separated by a vine which was half stripped of its leaves—the shade of the vine-leaves and the rays of the sun played and chased each other alternately over her face. She appeared larger than life as she sat like one of those marble statues enveloped in drapery, of which we admire the beauty without distinguishing the form. The folds of her dress were loose and flowing, and the drapery of a white shawl, folded closely round her, showed only her slender and rather attenuated hands, which were crossed on her lap. In one she carelessly held one of those red flowers which grow in the mountains beneath the snow, and are called, I know not why, 'poets' flowers.' One end of her shawl was thrown over her head like a hood, to protect her from the damp evening air. She was bent languidly forward, her head inclined upon her left shoulder; and the eyelids, with their long dark lashes, were closed against the dazzling rays of the sun. Her complexion was pale, her features motionless, and her countenance so expressive of profound and silent meditation, that she resembled a statue of Death; but of that Death which bears away the soul beyond the reach of human woes to the regions of eternal light and love."

The Lady's history is soon told. She is a being solitary on earth save for an old man-a family friend who adopted her-and has given her the title of wife in order that she may become his inmate without scandal. Must we say that M. de Lamartine, being a Frenchman, could hardly be expected to "let well alone" without giving a soupçon of piquancy to a situation in itself natural, holy, and requiring no adjunct or excuse? Julie is liable to a disease of the heart -and for this she has been ordered into Savoy and placed under medical care. As we have seen, she finds "a brother"—and to the progress and the issue of their passion the tale is devoted. Avoiding further specification of incident, we shall detach yet another passage of

reverie rather than of description.—
"We wished before we left Chambery and the valley we so much loved, to visit together the humble dwelling of Jean Jacques Rousseau and Madame de Warens, at Les Charmettes. A landscape is but a man, or a woman. What is Vaucluse without Petrarch?—Sorrento without Tasso? What is Sicily without Theoritus, or the Paraclet without Heloise? What is Annecy without Madame de Warens? What is Chambery without Jean Jacques Rousseau? A sky without rays, a voice without echo, a land-scape without life! Man does not only animate his fellow-men, he animates all nature. He carries his own immortality with him into heaven, but bequeaths

and really converse with his memory. We took with us the volume of the Confessions in which the poet of Les Charmettes describes this rustic retreat. Rousseau was wrecked there by the first storms of his fate, and was rescued by a woman, young, lovely, and adventurous, wrecked and lost like himself. This woman seems to have been a compound of virtues and weaknesses, sensibility and licence, piety and independence of thought, formed expressly by and independence of though, former capeau, in nature to cherish and develope the strange youth, whose mind comprehended that of a sage, a lover, a philosopher, a legislator, and a madman. Another woman might perhaps have produced another life. In a man we can always trace the woman whom he first loved. \* \* We followed the stony path at the bottom of the ravine which leads to Les Charmettes, still talking of this love. We were alone. The goat-herds even had forsaken the dried-up pastures and the leafless hedges. The sun shone now and then between the passing clouds, and its concentrated rays were warmer within the sheltered sides of the ravine. The redbreasts hopped about the bushes almost within our reach. Every now and then we would sit on the southern bank of the road to read a page or two of the Confessions, and identify ourselves with the place. \* \* Absorbed in these thoughts, we walked up a shelving greensward upon which a few walnut trees were scattered here and there. These trees had seen the lovers beneath their shade. To the right, where the pass narrows, so as to appear to form a barrier to the traveller, stands the house of Madame de Warens, on a terrace of rough and ill-cemented stones. It is a little square building of grey stone, with two windows and a door opening on the terrace, and the same on the garden side; there are three low rooms on the upper story, and a large room on the ground-floor, with no other furniture than a portrait of Madame de Warens in her youth. Her lovely face beams forth from the dust-covered and dingy canvas with beauty, sportiveness and pensive grace. Poor charming woman! \* \* Her pensive fancy imparted to him enthusiasm; the enthusiasm of women, of young men, of lovers, of all the poor, the oppressed, the unhappy of his day! She gave him the world, and he proved ungrateful!.... She gave him fame, and he bequeathed opprobrium!
...But posterity should be grateful to them, and forgive a weakness, that gave us the prophet of liberty. When Rousscau wrote those odious pages against his benefactress, he was no longer Rousseau, he was a poor madman. \* \* I defy any rational man to recompose, with a semblance of probability, the character Rousseau gives to the woman he loved, from the contradictory elements which he describes in her.

\* \* There is some hidden mystery here, which

must be attributed rather to the misguided hand of the artist, than to the nature of the woman whom he wished to represent. We must neither accuse the painter whose discernment was at that time impaired, nor believe in the portrait, which has dis-figured the sketch he at first made, of an adorable

creature."

We have extracted the above defence ex proposito, omitting many clauses as superfluous to those who have read 'Les Confessions,' since they need not be reminded of the extent to which the good faith and toleration of the apologist are taxed. It is indicative of the tone of 'Raphael.' The author has honourably done his best to be pure,—but he has not been able to make his love-story healthy. There is a perpetual disposition to coquet with what may be called forbidden machinery. The change of a word here and there would convert this narrative of innocent passion (so M. de Lamartine esteems it) into one of those masques of Delirium and False Feeling by which the French authors delight at once to excite and to outrage us. For one so admirable, too, as Raphael is meant to be, he is deficient in manliness. He neither hopes nor struggles with life, as our Lover should do, -his greatest amount of heroism does not get beyond concealment of, and yielding to, misery. He loves his mother dearly,—and consents to impoverish her when he knows that she is already impoverished, in order that he may follow his Julie to Paris. Ar-

rived there, having embraced the career of the Poet he allows a first discouragement to plunge him into a final despair, - unable to wrestle with Fate. On grounds like these we must place 'Raphael' as among the most melancholy and morbid tales of its family. There is no offence in the arrangement of its incidents,—nay, we are convinced that offence has been solicitously guarded against, and give the Poet-novelist credit accordingly :- but, let the sentimentalists say what they will, the strength of the tale is the strength of fever, and its want is a falling short of the elevation at which it was the author's purpose to sustain both his hero and his heroine.

The Saxons in England. A History of the English Commonwealth, till the Period of the Norman Conquest. By John Mitchell Kemble, Esq.

[Second Notice.] THE second volume of this work is devoted to tracing "The Principles and Progress of the Change in England"; and first, the growth of the kingly power. In the course of this chapter Mr. Kemble reviews the theory of one chief monarch, or Bretwalda, and concludes that the superiority of one king over the other was nothing more than "a mere fluctuating superiority, such as we may find in Owhyhee, Tahiti, or New Zealand, due to success in war, and lost in turn by defeat." The "rights of royalty" were many:—the possession of large domains which were the king's "property only while he reigned, in short, his woods and forests; the right to receive voluntary contributions from the free men and also a portion of fines. He was also privileged to adopt distinction in dress and dwelling :- "above all, the maintenance of a standing army of comrades, called at a late period Húscarlas, household troops.' power to call together the Whitena Gemot, or great council of the realm; but he does not appear to have had the power of dismissing it, or indeed of preventing its members from meet-ing at will. His political position was secured by the oath of allegiance taken to him by all subjects above twelve years of age; and his duties were to maintain the peace and to uphold the course of law. To him was the last appeal; and he possessed the right of pardon. Many other rights - indeed most of those which our Norman monarchs exercised were claimed by the Anglo-Saxon kings. In like manner, his court and household contained nearly the same officers which we find in the Norman. There were the chamberlain, the marshal or "hórsthegn," the steward, and various other inferior officers. Next in authority to the king was the ealdorman,-a title "which denotes civil as well as military preeminence." The "internal regulation of the shire as well as its political relation to the whole kingdom were under his immediate guidance, and the scirgeréfa, or sheriff, was little more than his deputy." Passing over the chapter relating to the Geréfa, we come to that much contested subject the Whitena Gemot.

"Although the members of the gemót are called in Saxon generally by the name of witan, they are decorated with very various titles in the Latin documents. Among these the most common are Maiores natu, Sapientes, Principes, Senatores, Primates, Optimates, Magnates, and in three or four charters they are designated Procuratores patriæ, which last title however seems confined to the thanes, geréfan or other members below the rank of an ealdorman. In the prologue to the laws of Wihtraed they are called the eadigan, for which I know no better translation than the Spanish Ricos hombres, where the wealth of the parties is certainly not the leading idea. But whatever be their titles they are unquestionably looked upon as representing the whole body of the people, and consequently the national will; and indeed in one charter of Æthelstán, an. 931, the act is said to have been confirmed 'tota plebis generalitate ovante,' with the approbation of all the people; and the act of a similar meeting at Winchester in 934, which was attended by the king, four Welsh princes, two archbishops, seventeen bishops, four abbots, twelve dukes, and fifty-two thanes, making a total of ninety-two persons, is described to have been executed 'totà populi generalitate.' \* That the members of the witena gemot were not elected, in any sense which we now attach to the word, I hold to be indisputable: elective witan ceased together with elective scirgeréfan or ealdorman. But in a system so elastic as the Saxon, it is conceivable that an ealdorman, bishop or other great wita may have occasionally carried with him to the gemot some friend or dependent whose wis-dom he thought might aid in the discussions, or whom the opinion of the neighbourhood designated as a person well calculated to advise for the general \_a slight trace, but still a trace, of the ancient popular right to be present at the settlement of public business. To this I attribute the frequent appearance of priests and deacons, who probably attended in the suite of prelates, and would be useful assessors when clerical business was brought before the council."

The powers of this assembly were most important. They possessed a consultative voice and right to consider every public act that could be authorized by the king. They deliberated upon the making of new laws, which were to be added to the existing folcright, and which were then promulgated by their own and the king's authority. They had the power of making alliances and treaties of peace,—and the power of electing the king and also of deposing him.—

"The kingly dignity among the Anglo-Saxons was partly hereditary, partly elective: that is to say, the kings were usually taken from certain qualified families, but the witan claimed the right of choosing the person whom they would have to reign. Their history is filled with instances of occasions when the sons or direct descendants of the last king have been set aside in favour of his brother or some other prince whom the nation believed more capable of ruling: and the very rare occurrence of discontent on such occasions both proves the authority which the decision of the witan carried with it, and the great Only here and there, when the witan were themselves not unanimous, do we find any traces of dissensions arising out of a disputed succession. On every fresh accession, the great compact between the king and the people was literally, as well as symbolically, renewed, and the technical expression for ascending the throne is being 'gecoren and áhafen tó cyninge,' elected and raised to be king: where the ahafen refers to the old Teutonic custom of what we still at election times call chairing the successful candidate; and the gecoren denotes the positive and foregone conclusion of a real election."

The most interesting chapter, to us, in these volumes, is that which treats of the towns. Pertinaciously attached to rural life and to the wild freedom of their plains and forests as were our Saxon forefathers, it is a curious task to endeavour to trace the steps which led them long before the country was fully brought under cul-tivation to congregate in cities. At the period when Saxon authentic history commences there were Roman cities in Britain, with temple and theatre and commodious, indeed luxurious, houses ready for their use: but we find the rude Saxon dwelling within his mark, girded in by the wood as though anxious to escape altogether from the very sight of a high civilization. The reason of this, however, as Mr. Kemble remarks, is not difficult to assign. "Dense quadrangular walls crowding into a defined and narrow space the elements of civilization are unintelligible to him whose whole desire centres in the undisturbed enjoyment of his éthel and unlimited command of the mark." Still, that these cities should not have been destroyed lest the conquered Britons should make a renewed whole free town population was distributed into such

resistance behind their solid battlements is us intelligible, save as strong proof that the Britan indeed were, as Gildas laments, "utterly ignorated the practice of war." Meanwhile, the Saxon an agricultural people, naturally took possession of those estates which, lying nearest to the cities, were probably in the highest state of cu tivation,-and thus cut off all communication between city and city by extending themselve over the tracts which lay between. But set were required; and such the helpless inhabi tants of the cities easily became, while whatever treasure still remained also fell as easy

prey.—
"The inhabitants they enslaved, or expelled as mere necessary precaution and preliminary to their on peaceable occupation of the land: but they neithe took possession of the towns, nor did they give then selves the trouble to destroy them. They had not the motive, the means or perhaps the patience in unbuild what we know to have been so solidly constructed. Where it suited their purpose to save the old Roman work, they used it for their own advantage: where it did not suit their views of cor venience or policy to establish themselves on or new the old sites, they quietly left them to decay. Then is not even a probability that they in general too the trouble to dismantle walls or houses to assist in the construction of their own rude dwellings. Board and rafters, much more accessible, and to then much more serviceable, much more easy of trans port than stones and bond-tiles, they very likely removed: the storms, the dews, the sunshine, the unperceived and gentle action of the elements di the rest,-for desolation marches with giant strides and neglect is a more potent leveller than militar engines. Clogged watercourses undermined the strong foundations; decomposed stucco or the detritus of stone and brick mingled in the deserte. chambers with drifted silt and dust and leaves, Ac cumulations of soil formed in and around the crumbling abodes of wealth and power; winged seeds, borne on the autumnal winds, sunk gently on a new and vigorous bed; vegetation yearly thickening, yearly dying, prepared the genial deposit; root yearly matting deepened the crust; the very site of cities vanished from the memory as they had vanished from the eye: till at length the plough was and the corn waved, as it now waves, over the mains of palaces and temples in which the one proud masters of the world had revelled and hal worshipped. Who shall say in how many unsupected quarters yet, the peasant whistles careles and unchidden above the pomp and luxury of imperial Rome!"

The nucleus of the Saxon town was a fortress; "not a massive pile with towers, but a gentle hill crowned with a slight earthwork, or even stout hedge, and capacious enough to receive all who required protection." Around this, under the guardianship of some noble more powerful than the rest, the poor and unfree settlers who obtained a scanty living on the chieftain's land, the idlers whom his hospitality attracted, and the rude manufacturers who supplied his wants congregated. Ere long barter arose, and then that important adjunct to a town, the market. Still, we certainly find the Saxons in many instances re-occupying the sites of the Roman cities,-probably at first under the protection of some neighbouring lord, perhaps the king,but never re-adopting the Roman civic constitution, always their own .-

"The general outline of an urban constitution, in the earlier days of the Saxons, may have been some what of the following character. The freemen either with or without the co-operation of the lord, but usually with it, formed themselves into associations or clubs, called gylds. These must not be confounded either on the one side with the Hanse (in Anglosaxon Hósa), i. e. trading guilds, or on the other with the guilds of crafts ('collegia opificum') of later ages. Looking to the analogy of the country-gylds or Tithings, described in detail in the ninth chapter of the First Book, we may believe that the

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nents is to sociations; but that in each town, taken altogether, associations; they formed a compact and substantive body called in general the *Burhwaru*, and perhaps sometimes more especially the *Ingang burhware*, or 'burgher's club.' It is also certain from various expressions in rly ignore the Saxon possessi the boundaries of charters, as 'Burhware maéd,'
hurhware mearc,' and the like, that they were in rest to th tate of cal possession of real property as a corporate body. \* \*
These gylds, whether in their original nature religious, municatio themselve political, or merely social unions, rested upon another and solemn principle: they were sworn brotherhoods ess inhali between man and man, established and fortified upon hile what 'ath and wed,' oath and pledge; and in them we l as easy consequently recognize the germ of those sworn communes, commune or communie, which in the times of the densest seignorial darkness offered a noble resistance to episcopal and baronial tyranny, and formed the nursing cradles of popular liberty." xpelled as totheiro hey neithe

The rights of these corporations were indeed, as Mr. Kemble remarks, royal. "They had their own alliances and feuds, their own juris-diction, their own markets and tolls, their own power of internal taxation, their personal free-dom with all its dignity and privileges. And to secure these blessings, they had their own towers and walls, and fortified houses, bell and banner, watch and ward, and their own armed militia."

Such were the privileges of London from a very early day,—and thus were its inhabitants placed in a position to maintain their own rights, both against king and bishop, although the king was Athelstan. We are rather surprised to find Mr. Kemble remarking that "Saxon ondon and Roman London could not be the ame place";—for in every spot which can be dentified as Saxon London we find Roman emains. Roman pottery, even sacrificial remains, were discovered beneath the foundations of old St. Paul's,-the Saxon as well as Norman metropolitan cathedral; tesselated pavement, and Roman brickwork were lately found closely adjoining the site—if not on the very spot—occu-pied by the Alderman's Bury and palace of King Athelstan: and the very stone set up in the midst of the chief market, Eastcheap,—the time-hallowed London-stone—has been considered a Roman measure indicating the centre of the city. In regard to other Roman cities, it is very probable that the Saxons established themselves not exactly on the same site, -more especially if a rising ground in the immediate neighbourhood offered a still more convenient locality. Such was the case at St. Alban's,—and doubt-less in other instances. It would be very interesting to build in imagination an Anglo-Saxon city; and though no maps or plans exist to guide us we can realize a tolerable view.— "Let us place a cathedral and a guildhall with its

befry in the midst of these, surround them with a circuit of walls and gates, and add to them the common names of North, South, East, and West, or Northgate, Southgate, Eastgate, and Westgate Streets,—here and there let us fix the market and its cross, the dwellings of the bishop and his clergy, the houses of the queen and perhaps the courtiers, of the principal administrative officers and of the leading burghers,—above all, let us build a stately fortress, to overawe or to defend the place, to be the residence of the geréfa and his garrison, and the site of the courts of justice,—and we shall have a plausible representation of a principal Anglosaxon city.

\* \* The giant march of commercial prosperity has

crumbled into dust almost every trace of what our brave and good forefathers looked upon with pardonable price: but the principles which animated them, still in a great degree regulate the lives of us their descendants; and if we exult in the conviction that our free municipal institutions are the safeguard of some of our most cherished liberties, let us remember those to whom we owe them, and study to transmit unimpaired to our posterity that inheritance which we have derived from so remote an ancestry."

We can do little more than indicate the subjects of the last four chapters;—the bishop, the clergy, and their income, and the provi-

over with slight notice. As the successor of the priests of Saxon "heathendom," the bishop inherited by far too large an amount of secular power; and his subordinates, following his example, also possessed much. Their sway, by means of legend and pretended mixeds was very great during the later position. miracle, was very great during the later period of Saxon history; when they sought by these means to supply the lack of that learning and that proficiency in the arts which made the clergy of the seventh and eighth centuries marvellous in the eyes of a rude people and illustrious in other lands. The support of this body was supplied from the tithe and free-will offerings of their parishioners; but the tithe was unquestionably divided into three parts,—one for the repairs of churches, one for the sustenance of the clergy, and the last third for the poor.

We have endeavoured at some length to give an epitome of the more important portions of the valuable work before us, and conclude by hoping that Mr. Kemble will ere long fulfil his promise "to lay before his coun-trymen the continuation of this history." The subjects which will then come under review -the judicial proceedings, social condition, and progress of the arts, literature, and science of our Saxon forefathers-will make it a most interesting sequel to this important inquiry into the principles of our earliest political consti-

Martin Toutrond; a Frenchman in London in 1831. Translated from an unpublished French MS. Bentley.

This is a tolerably merry book; not very wise, but anything rather than dangerous,-since it cannot be reproached with containing a word calculated to feed national antipathies or grudges. The young épicier from the Rue du Bac thinks very nearly as highly of its kennels as did Madame de Staël herself,—rates his own accom-plishments and irresistible charms no less fondly than if he had posed to M. Chateaubriand for a Romance-Adonis,-and possesses that marvellous power of fathoming strange depths and reconciling unforeseen contradictions which we have remarked in other French guests who have reported upon the state of opinion, religious, civil, and military, in England. But if Martin Toutrond be not sparing in the exhibition of his own graces, neither is he reserved with regard to those of the wonderful islanders amongst whom he is thrown. Bent upon the subjugation of an "English Miss" with some hundreds of pounds of annual rents, he penetrates hundreds of pounds of annual rents, he penetrates the mysteries of City grandeur,—gets behind the curtain of mid-London gentility,—and has more than one peep at the home virtues of those whose plaudits and presence keep alive the fire upon the altar of charitable oratory, the high place of which is the platform of Exeter Hall. He presents himself everywhere;—addresses everybody. He makes himself a Count at a present it was not present to creatify the English woman's moment's warning, to gratify the Englishwoman's penchant for "stars and garters"-" cuts" his cousin, a good-natured and well-conducted Cook, when it suits his grandeur not to be recognized in aristocratic society;—appears as an orator at a Radical meeting. Perhaps his speech on the last occasion will afford the reader a fair idea of his manner .-

"Concentrating all my features into an expression of deep and profound thought, and adopting an attitude of body full of grace, I said—'Gentlemans! I smell that I am one Frenchman. I glory in him. The univers look at us, and France look at me, now that we are gone to renouveller, to turn down side up the whole of the human race. When I see this noble

sion for the poor. These subjects involve questions from which the Athenœum is pledged to abstain, — and must therefore be passed the steam-boats, when I see all the glories of the world, and when I can see nothing more, then I cry my heart is full, let us go and kill a tyrant. Gentle-men, what is there that does not cry for vengeance? Every thing is wrong when nothing is right. Nature jemmy's to see the world crazy with tyranny. We must relieve Nature. Let us at once relieve her by one great effort.—We will first gorge kings, queens, emperors; we will then gorge dukes, marquises, and viscounts; then all soldiers, all sailors, all lawyers, all the gens d'armes, all the people who have money, in fine, we will gorge every one but ourselves."

We cannot but remind the reader that how-

ever neatly this eloquence might have fitted the year 1848, it was hardly that of a Toutrond in the year 1831. The young épicier is more thoroughly at home at a ball, when criticizing the dancing of a rival with his Dulcinea .-

"I perceived at once that he had taken me for his model, and that he was doing his best to copy my steps, and catch the grace of my person. He made some remarkable contortions, that young man -he was taking violent exercise in no very refined manner, and his cheeks were intensely suffused in consequence of his great efforts. He kicked about like one just hung: threw out his legs right and left, —acts which he flattered himself were taken for pigeon's wings, and bounded about snapping his heels together, flattering himself that he was cutting capers. Miss Dipps also did not dance for nothing. It might have been remarked, that she was throwing in much sentiment in her manner of dancing with Simpkins had I not been certain that she had already given her heart to me. It was, however, very gratifying her heart to me. It was, however, very gratifying to see how much I had already given the tone (and, through me, France,) to the citizens of a city and of a rival nation; and I was persuaded that I had thus instilled the first principles of dancing in a community which to this day had been living in a state of lamentable ignorance. Whilst I was contemplating the efforts which Miss Dipps and Simpkins were making to distinguish themselves. We Dipps the propher to distinguish themselves, Mrs. Dipps, the mother, came up to me, and looking at her daughter and her companion, pointing them out to me, she said, with a thoroughly happy look, 'they are going it with a vengeance;' that is to say, they are dancing in order to revenge themselves; words which proved to me that the Englishman never dances from the impulse of joy or lightness of heart, like the Frenchman, but that he always has a mixt motive in everything he undertakes, which partakes either of hatred or of interest,"

To match Martin's English an example should be given of a London Lady's French. The following invitation to "a serious party" is hardly a caricature.—
"Mademoiselle Grubbit fait ses compliments à

Viscount Chatoutrond et lui prie de prendre quelque thé avec elle ce soir à huit heures, avec un peu de personnes et de personnes ami. Monsieur Best pondera."

In this light strain do we go on for some four hundred pages; getting a fair quantum of mirth out of French hits and English "misses" -pitting badaud against cockney,-and rising from the strife with the conviction that there is not much harm "or venom" in the book or the

A Sketch of the Origin and Progress of Steam Navigation from Authentic Documents. By Bennet Woodcroft, Professor of Machinery in University College, London. Taylor & Co. Who invented steam navigation? is a question in the history of Inventions much disputed. The dispute lies not so much between men as between nations. France has her Jouffroy, Spain her Blasco de Garay, England her Jonathan Hulls, Scotland her Bell, America her Fulton. The greatest share in the merit of the invention had been pretty generally attri-buted to Fulton and to Bell;—but more recent research has tended to overturn that belief. The present work will help, if not to settle

the matter conclusively, at least still further to unsettle the popular faith on both sides of the

It was first demonstrated, we think, in a Treatise on Steam Navigation in the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' about 1840, that it is to none of the popularly received authors of steam navigation that the public are indebted for the invention—but to the united efforts of three Scotchmen, Miller, Taylor and Symington. These three began their joint experiments in 1788,—and continued them into the present century. Those experiments formed the foundation of all that has since been done. Bell and Fulton both saw their boats, and followed their construction: one in Scotland, on the Clyde—the other in America, on the Hudson. Both have had awarded to them the merit of originality, which neither deserved.

These conclusions, deduced by Mr. Scott Russell from a laborious series of personal researches and recorded in the Treatise alluded to, are fully established by the more recent investigations of Mr. Woodcroft. He, too, seems to have taken great pains to ransack every record that could furnish authentic evidence on the subject. He produces a trustworthy series of original papers. He has obtained in many cases, the original drawings and specifications of the inventors themselves. He has re-constructed Miller's original paddle-boat, Symington's original engine, and Miller's, Taylor's and Syming-ton's original steam-boats. He traces clearly their history, progress and improvement. He traces out also the connexion of these with Bell and with Fulton :- and shows the latter especially to have possessed little merit beyond such as belongs to the appropriating to himself of the labour and reputation of others.

There is one fact which gives to this result of such inquiries a peculiar interest. The widow of one of the inventors still lives: and a paltry pension of 50l. a-year is all that now marks the liberality of the English nation to the inventors of steam navigation! Thus it is that England delights to honour those who achieve the victories of peaceful conquest and scientific invention. What shall be done to the man whom she recognizes as one of her great national benefactors? His widow shall have fifty pounds a-year!—Watt died unrewarded; his son has followed him, unhonoured, to the grave; and Mrs. Taylor represents one of the three inventors of steam navigation to receive a payment of fifty pounds a-year from the nation whose steam fleets sweep over all the seas of the world!

That part of Mr. Woodcroft's beautiful volume which unravels the particulars of this chapter in the history of steam navigation, will be read with great interest. The pains which he has taken to ascertain the facts from original sources,—the elegant drawings given of the infant steam-vessels, rendered as they are by Mr. Bourne, Mr. Barlow, and Mr. Cheffins with minute fidelity and picturesque effect,—the reproduction faithfully of original documents and original and rare drawings which enable the reader to judge for himself of the justness of the conclusions attempted to be established—give to the work a value alike to the scientific student and to the amateur.

With the history of Miller, Taylor, Symington, and their followers Bell and Fulton, the early history of paddle-wheel navigation ceases. With it, Mr. Woodcroft's book also might have closed but for the existence of an important modern invention "the screw propeller." Perhaps it might be thought probable that in regard to that invention, produced in times comparatively modern, after the practicability of steam navigation was perfectly admitted and its public importance fully recognized, we

should have no more neglected merit to bewail or public ingratitude to record. Not so! "Tempora mutantur,"—it is true, but it is not true that "nos mutamur in illis." The original inventor of the screw propeller has reaped only neglect. It appears from Mr. Woodcroft's book, that Capt. Ericsson, of the late firm of Braithwaites & Ericsson, was the constructor of the first efficient screw propeller. So far back as 1837, he constructed a screwboat on the Thames, which performed at the rate of ten miles an hour, and towed a large American ship five miles an hour. The engineers of London neglected the experiment:—the Lords of the Admiralty, Sir Charles Adam, Sir William Symonds, Sir Edward Parry and Capt. Beaufort pooh-pooh-ed it. England disowned the invention and the inventor.

If Mr. Woodcroft is hard on the claims of America in regard to the paddle-wheel, he does her ample justice in regard to the screw propeller. America-her countrymen-her Admiralty -have put England to shame. The disowned engineer and his invention found a refuge there. Ericsson and his screw were instantly adopted and encouraged, introduced and promoted in America. Capt. Ericsson's line of boats may now be seen daily engaged in transporting the richest, heaviest freights of the Delaware, -and the 'Princeton' war steamer has long done honour to the American Navy. have we, who conceive ourselves to rank highest as a nation of engineers, inventors and sailors, superciliously thrown away both character and

We come at a considerably later period to the introduction of the screw propeller in this country—and to the celebrated trials of the 'Archimedes,' by which so much attention was drawn to the subject. Mr. Woodcroft's own share in the matter is stated with great modesty. He is known to be the inventor of one of the earliest and most effective forms of screw. He, too, has to complain—apparently with great justice—of the unfair treatment which he has suffered from the Board of Admiralty and their officers:—officers who know something of their business but have no responsibility, and a Board who take the responsibility but know nothing what-

Mr. Woodcroft's volume closes with a list of patents for propelling,—which is of much value as containing many hitherto little known. The spirit and tenour of the work and the information which it conveys are well illustrated in the following extract from one of the documents concerning the screw propeller.—

ever of the business.

"The next step in the invention was the construction of a wooden boat, 40 feet long, 8 feet beam, 3 feet draught of water, with two propellers, each of 5 feet 3 inches diameter. So successful was this experiment, that when steam was turned on the first time the boat at once moved at a speed of upwards of 10 miles an hour, without a single alteration being requisite in her machinery. Not only did the boat attain this considerable speed, but its power to tow larger vessels was found to be so great, that schooners of 140 tons burthen were propelled by it at the rate of seven miles an hour; and the American packet ship Toronto, under the command of Captain Griswold, was towed in the river Thames, by this miniature steamer, at the rate of more than five English miles an hour through the water. The engineers of London regarded the experiment with silent neglect; and the subject, when laid before the Lords of the British Admiralty, failed to attract any favourable notice from that august body. Perceiving its peculiar and admirable fitness for ships of war, Ericsson was confident that their Lordships would at once order the construction of a war steamer on the new principle. He invited them, therefore, to take an excursion in tow of his experimental boat. Accordingly, the gorgeous and gilt Admiralty barge was ordered up to Somerset House, and the little

steamer was lashed alongside. The barge contained Sir Charles Adam, senior Lord of the Admiralty, Sir Charles Adam, Surveyor of the British Navy Sir Edward Parry, the celebrated commander of the second North Pole Expedition, Captain Beaufort, Hydrographer, and others of scientific and naval distinction. In the anticipation of a severe scrutiny from so distinguished a personage as the chief constructor of the British navy, the inventor had carefully prepared plans of his new mode of propulsion. which were spread on the damask cloth of the magnificent barge. To his utter astonishment, as we may well imagine, this scientific gentleman did not appear to take the slightest interest in his explanations. On the contrary, with those expressive shrugs of the shoulder and shakes of the head which convey so much to the bystander without absolutely committing the actor,—with an occasional sly, mysterious undertone remark to his colleagues,—he indicated very plainly that though his humanity would not permit him to give a worthy man cause for so much unhappiness, yet that 'he could, an if he would' demonstrate by a single word the utter futility of the whole invention. Meanwhile the little steamer, with her precious charge, proceeded at a steady progress of 10 miles an hour through the arches of the lofty Southwark and London bridges towards Limehouse and the steam-engine manufactory of the Messrs. Seaward. Their Lordships having landed and inspected the huge piles of ill-shaped cast-iron, mis-denominated marine engines, intended for some of his Majesty's steamers, - with a look at their favourite propelling apparatus, the Morgan paddle-wheel (a very admirable instrument by the bye), they re-embarked, and were safely returned to Somer set House by the disregarded, noiseless, and unseen propeller of the new steamer. On parting, Sir Charles Adam, with a sympathizing air, shook the inventor cordially by the hand, and thanked him for the trouble he had been at in showing him and his friends this interesting experiment; adding, that he feared he had put himself to too great an expense and trouble on this occasion. Notwithstanding this somewhat ominous finale of the day's excursion, Ericson felt confident that their Lordships could not fail to perceive the great importance of the invention. To his surprise, however, a few days afterwards, a friend put into his hands a letter written by Captain Beaufort, at the suggestion, probably, of the Lords of the Admiralty, in which that gentle-man, who had witnessed the experiment, expressed regret to state that their Lordships had certainly been very much disappointed at its result. reason for the disappointment was altogether inex-plicable to the inventor; for the speed attained at this trial far exceeded anything that had ever been accomplished by any paddle-wheel steamer on so small a scale. An accident soon relieved his astonishment, and explained the mysterious givings-out of Sir William Symonds alluded to in our notice of the excursion. The subject having been started at a dinner-table where a friend of Ericsson was present, Sir William ingeniously and ingenuously remarked that, 'even if the propeller had the power of propelling a vessel, it would be found altogether useless in practice, because the power being applied in the stern, it would be absolutely impossible to make the vessel steer.' It may not be obvious to every one how our naval philosopher derived his conclusion from his premises; but his hearers doubtless readily acquiesced in the oracular proposition, and were much amused at the idea of 'undertaking to steer a vessel when the power was applied in her stern' But we may well excuse the Lords of the British Admiralty for exhibiting no interest in the invention when we reflect that the engineering corps of the empire were arrayed in opposition to it; alleging that it was constructed upon erroneous principles, and full of practical defects, and regarding its failure as too certain to authorize any speculations even of its success. The plan was specially submitted to many distinguished engineeers, and was publicly discussed in the scientific journals; and there was no one but the inventor who refused to acquiesce in the truth of the numerous demonstrations, proving the vast loss of mechanical power which must attend this proposed substitute for the old-fashioned paddle-wheel. While opposed by such a powerful array of English

scientific wisdom, the inventor had the satisfaction of

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AN. 20 mbmitting his plan to a citizen of the New World, favourable hearing; and under the auspices of the ment—those who espouse democracy will not present administration the experiment of the Prince- feel that he is grappling with them. In an submitting his plan to a citizen of the New World, who was able to understand its philosophy and appreciate its importance. I allude to a gentleman well known to many who have enjoyed his liberal hospitality in a foreign land,—Mr. Francis B. Ogden, a native of New Jersey, for many years Consul of the United States at Liverpool, and in that position reflecting the highest credit on the American name and character. Though not an engineer by profession, Mr. Ogden has been distinguished for his emisent strainments in the mechanical science, and is nent attainments in the mechanical science, and is entitled to the honour of having first applied the important principles of the expansive power of steam, and of having originated the idea of employing right-angular cranks in marine engines. His practical experience and long study of the subject,—for he was the first to stem the waters of the Ohio and Mississippi, and the first to navigate the ocean by the power of steam alone, — enabled him at once to perceive the truth of the inventor's demonstrations. And not only did he admit their truth, but he also joined Captain Ericsson in constructing the first experimental boat to which I have alluded, and which the inventor launched into the Thames, with the name of the Francis B. Ogden, as a token of respect for his transatlantic friend. Other circum-stances soon occurred which consoled the inventor for his disappointment in the rejection of the pro-peller by the Lords of the British Admiralty. The subject had been brought to the notice of an officer of the navy of the United States, who was at that time on a visit to London, and who was induced to accompany the inventor in one of his experimental excursions on the Thames. I allude to Captain Robert F. Stockton, who is entitled to the credit of being the first naval officer who heard, understood, and dared to act upon the suggestions of Ericsson, as to the application of the propeller to ships of war. At the first glance he saw the bearings of the invention, and his acute judgment enabled him at once to predict that it was destined to work a revolution in naval warfare. In those who are not acquainted with the character of Captain Stockton, the great rapidity of his perception, his self-reliance, and the energy with which he prosecutes his purposes, it may excite some surprise to learn that, after making a single trip in the experimental steamboat from London Bridge to Greenwich, he ordered the inventor to build for him forthwith two iron boats for the United States, with steam machinery and pro-peller on the plan of this rejected invention. 'I do not want,' said Captain Stockton, 'the opinions of your scientific men; what I have seen this day satisfies me.' It is due to Captain Stockton to state that his whole course in regard to this invention and the introduction of it into this country (America), has been in accordance with the spirit of this remark. At a dinner given on this occasion at Greenwich, Captain Stockton, in his happy style, made several predictions and promises in respect to the new invention, all of which have since been realized. To the inventor he said, in words of no unmeaning compli-ment, 'We'll make your name ring on the Delaware as soon as we get the propeller there.' The Prince-ton (war steamer) was launched into the Delaware, and the Ericsson steamboat line is now carrying nearly the whole of the freight between Philadelphia and Baltimore, and Captain Ericsson's several iron propeller boats may be seen every day on the Delaware carrying the rich mineral products of Pennsylvania to the east. But not only did Captain Stockton order, on his account, the two iron boats to which I have referred; he at once brought the subject before the Government of the United States, and caused numerous plans and models to be made at his own expense explaining the peculiar fitness of the new invention for ships of war. So completely persuaded was he of its great importance in this aspect, and so determined that his views should be carried out, that he boldly assured the inventor that the Government of the United States would test the propeller on a large scale; and so confident was Eriesson that the perseverance and energy of Captain Stockton would sooner or later accomplish what he promised, that he at once abandoned his professional engagements in England and set out for the United States. Circumtures additional for the Confidence of the Con stances delayed for some two years the execution of their plan. With the change of the federal admi-nistration Captain Stockton was first able to obtain a

ton has been made, and has been successful."
On the whole, Mr. Woodcroft has done good

service to the literature of mechanics and of engineering invention by the production of this volume. We hope he will not fail to publish in an equally agreeable form the further stores of information which he states to be still in his possession.

Democracy in France. (January 1849.) By M. Guizot. Murray.

THE French papers inform us that ten thousand copies of this work were sold in two days, and that twenty thousand francs (8,000%) were paid for the copyright. The name, the subject, and the state of Europe explain such facts. But they whose curiosity was sharpened by the name of Guizot, and who expected to find in these pages some of the personalities which feed polemical discussions and some of the views peculiar to statesmen who have examined the coulisses of the singular drama acted on the stage of history, will be disappointed. It is not the ex-minister who here speaks—it is the ex-professor. It is not the Guizot who for eleven years ruled France, and for so many of those years bore the opprobrious name of "Le Ministre Anglais" because his policy visibly inclined to amicable relations with England—it is the Guizot who in the Collége de France delivered those deep and weighty lectures on the march of civilization which won him the respect and admiration of all European thinkers. notice this, not to confirm the statement in the preface that no impress of personal situation is to be found in the pages of the work before us —but because to explain the nature of the work we are obliged to recur to its author's earlier writings, which in style it so much resembles. As, in those lectures, amidst the multitudinous details of events, characters, opinions, follies, and crimes, his principal object was always to seize the fundamental idea of each epoch and to show how that was realized in history—as he was there the poli-tical philosopher looking for meanings and results, rather than the historical artist calling up again the majestic pageant of a by-gone age— so in this work, amidst the angry conflict of parties and the quick succession of events, he strives to pierce beneath the surface deep down to the foundations—and this he does with an unalterable steadiness which would have won from Plato the praise of having in true philosophic spirit sought the One in the Many, the general Idea amidst the myriad Facts.

Of the truth of the conclusions at which M. Guizot arrives, and the value of the ideas which the announces, it is not our province to speak. We have sedulously kept our columns free from the heats and animosities of party strife; and the topic here discussed—Democracy—is one which, in the present hour of its discussion, arouses bitter dissensions. But our readers will expect from us some account of a work exciting so much attention; and we shall, we think, best consult their wishes by confining ourselves to an exposition of its contents.

In the opening chapter the writer examines the source of the prevalent evil of the times,and that source he finds to be the "idolatry of democracy." It is to be regretted that he has nowhere clearly defined what he understands by Democracy, nor what is the share which the democratic principle ought to have in modern society. In a philosophic treatise such an oversight is serious. Much of the reasoning will be like a spent arrow, because we do not see its end and aim. Those opposed to democracy will these speculators misunderstand man; the latter misscarcely perceive the whole force of his argu-understand man, and deny God. Let any man dive

feel that he is grappling with them. In an orator or an historian we may dispense with definitions; in a philosopher who appeals to our reason we above all things demand them clear and positive, that we may follow him step by step. To omit them, and preserve the philosophic tone, is to adopt a style without adopting its advantages or its prescriptions. M. Guizot has, however, well stated the power

of the word Democracy.—
"The following are the causes to which the word democracy owes its power. It is the banner of all the social hopes and ambitions of man,—pure or impure, noble or base, rational or irrational, possible or chimerical. Now it is the glory of man to be ambitious. He alone, of all created beings, does not passively resign himself to evil; he alone incessantly passively reagn infinish to evil; he anote incessantly aspires after good; not only for himself, but for his fellow-creatures. He respects and loves the race to which he belongs; he wishes to find a remedy for their miseries, and redress for their wrongs. But man is no less imperfect than he is ambitious. A widet his adout and uncoexing structure to credit Amidst his ardent and unceasing struggles to eradicate evil and to achieve good, every one of him virtuous inclinations is accompanied by an evil inclination which treads closely on its heels, or strives with it for precedence. The desire for justice and the desire for vengeance—the spirit of liberty and the spirit of tyranny—the wish to rise and the wish to abase what has risen-the ardent love of truth and the presumptuous temerity of fancied knowledge;we may fathom all the depths of human nature; we shall find throughout, the same mingled yet conshall find throughout, the same danger from their close and easy approximation. To all these instincts, at once contrary and parallel,—to all indiscriminately, the bad as well as the good,—the word Democracy holds out an interminable vista and infinite promises. It fosters every propensity, it speaks to every passion of the heart of man; to the most generous and the most shameful, the most moral and the most immoral, the gentlest and the harshest, the most beneficent and the most destructive: to the former it loudly offers, to the latter it secretly and dimly promises, satisfaction. Such is the secret of its power."

And he further adds :-

"The empire of the word Democracy is not to be regarded as a transitory or local accident. It is the development—others would say the explosion—of all the elements of human nature throughout all the ranks and all the depths of society; and consequently the open, general, continuous, inevitable struggle of its good and evil instincts; of its virtues and its vices; of all its powers and faculties, whether to improve or to corrupt, to raise or to abase, to create or to destroy. Such is, from henceforth, the social state, the permanent condition of our nation."

Such being the political condition, what are the political means of regulating these elements into harmonious activity ?-

"There are men whom this fearful struggle does not alarm; they have full confidence in human nature. According to them, if left to itself, its pro-gress is towards good: all the evils of society arise from governments which debase men by violence or corrupt them by fraud: liberty\_liberty for everybody and everything — liberty will almost always suffice to enlighten or to controul the wills of men, to prevent evil or to cure it: a little governmentthe least possible—may be allowed for the repression of extreme disorder and the controll of brute force. Others have a more summary way of disposing of all dread of the triumph of evil in man or in society. There is, they say, no such thing as natural and necessary evil, since no human inclination is bad in itself; it becomes so, only when it does not attain the end after which it aspires—it is a torrent which overflows its banks when obstructed. If society were organized in such a manner that each of the instincts of man found its proper place and received its due satisfaction, evil would disappear, strife would cease, and all the various forces of humanity, harmoniously combine to produce social order. The former of

into his own heart and observe himself with attention. If he have the power to look, and the will to see, he will behold, with a sort of terror, the incessant war waged by the good and evil dispositions within him-reason and caprice, duty and passion; in short, to call them all by their comprehensive names, good and evil. We contemplate with anxiety the outward troubles and vicissitudes of human life; but what should we feel if we could behold the inward vicissitudes, the troubles of the human soul ?--if we could see how many dangers, snares, enemies, combats, victories, and defeats can be crowded into a day—an I do not say this to discourage man, nor to humble or under-value his free will. He is called upon to conquer in the battle of life, and the honour of the conquest belongs to his free will. But victory is impossible, and defeat certain, if he has not a just conception and a profound feeling of his dangers, his weaknesses, and his need of assistance. To believe that the free will of man tends to good, and is of itself sufficient to accomplish good, betrays an immeasurable ignorance of his nature. It is the error of pride; an error which tends to destroy both moral and political order; which enfeebles the government of communities no less than the government of the inward

Political government is the correlate of selfgovernment :- it is to all men what each man is to himself, a resisting controlling power. There-

"Resistance not only to evil, but to the principle of evil; not only to disorder, but to the passions and the ideas which engender disorder-this is the paramount and peremptory duty of every government. And the greater the empire of Democracy, the more important is it that government should hold fast to its true character, and act its true part in the struggle which agitates society. Why is it that so many democracies - some of them very brilliant - have so rapidly perished? Because they would not suffer their governments to do their duty, and fulfil the objects for which governments are instituted. They did more than reduce them to weakness; they condemned them to falsehood. It is the melancholy condition of democratic governments, that while charged as they must be with the repression of disorder, they are required to be complaisant and indulgent to the causes of disorder; they are expected to arrest the evil when it breaks out, and yet they are asked to foster it whilst it is hatching. I know no more deplorable spectacle than a power which, in the struggle between the good and the evil principle, continually bends the knee before the bad, and then attempts to resume an attitude of vigour and independence when it becomes necessary to resist its excesses. If you will not have excesses, you must repress them in their origin. If you wish for liberty for the full and glorious development of human nature-learn first on what conditions this is attainable; look forward to its consequences. Do not blind yourselves to the perils and the combats it will occasion. And when these combats and these perils arise, do not require your leaders to be hypocritical or weak in their dealings with the enemy. Do not force upon them the worship of idols, even were you yourselves those idols. Permit them, nay command them, to worship and to serve the true God alone."

All parties, we take it, will readily acquiesce in the above conclusions; but all parties will ask at the same time - How is this resistance to be organized? How far may the Government which is the embodied will of the nation oppose the wish of the Nation? This question M. Guizot does not answer. He discusses the principles of the Democratic Re-public and of the Social Republic—but eludes or overlooks the main question. We may quote his answer to the Socialists .-

"Mankind is not merely a series of individuals called men; it is a race, which has a common life, and a general and progressive destiny. This is the distinctive character of man, which he alone of created beings possesses. And why is this? It is because human individuals are not isolated, nor confined to themselves, and to the point they occupy in space or time. They are connected with each other; they act upon each other, by ties and by means which do

not require their presence, and which outlive them. Hence the successive generations of men are linked together in unbroken succession. The permanent union and progressive development which are the consequences of this unbroken succession of man to man, and generation to generation, characterize the human race. They constitute its peculiarity and its greatness, and mark man for sovereignty in this world, and for immortality beyond it. From this are derived, and by this are founded, the family and the state, property and inheritance, country, history, glory, all the facts and all the sentiments which constitute the extended and perpetual life of mankind, amidst the bounded appearance and rapid disappearance of individual men. In the Social Republic all this ceases to exist. Men are mere isolated and ephemeral beings, who appear in this life, and on this earth the scene of life, only to take their subsistence and their pleasure, each for himself alone, each by the same right, and without any end or purpose beyond. is precisely the condition of the lower animals. Among them there exists no tie, no influence, which survives the individual, and extends to the race. There is no permanent appropriation, no hereditary transmission, no unity nor progress in the life of the species;
—nothing but individuals who appear and then vanish, seizing on their passage their portion of the good things of the earth and the pleasures of life, according to the combined measure of their wants and their strength, which, according to them, constitute their right.'

The danger of Socialism he describes as fol-

"The Social Republic is then at once odious and impossible. It is the most absurd, and at the same time the most perverse, of all chimeras. But we must not presume upon this. Nothing is more dangerous than what is at once strong and impossible. The Social Republic is strong; indeed how can it be Availing themselves with ardour of every kind of liberty granted for the promulgation of ideas, its advocates are incessantly labouring to diffuse their principles and their promises through the densest ranks of society. There they find masses of men easy to delude, easy to inflame. They offer them rights in conformity with their desires. They excite their passions in the name of justice and truth. For it would be puerile to deny (and for the honour of human nature we must admit) that the ideas of the Social Republic have, to many minds, the character and the force of truth. In questions so complex and so exciting, the smallest gleam of truth is sufficient to dazzle the eves and inflame the hearts of men, and to dispose them to embrace with transport the grossest and most fatal errors with which that truth is blended. Fanaticism is kindled at the same time that selfishness is awakened; sincere devotedness joins hands with brutal passions; and, in the terrible fermentation which ensues, evil predominates; the portion of good mingled with it acts only as its veil and its instrument."

The first step, according to M. Guizot, towards extricating France from her present anarchical condition is to set aside the unreflective idolatry of democracy, and to examine what are the real elements of French society. These elements are-family; property of all kinds, whether land, capital or wages; labour under all its forms, intellectual and manual; the situations in which men are placed, or the relations which are introduced among them by the incidents of family, property, and labour. These elements have their several types in— 1. Men living on the income of their property, whether in land or capital, without seeking to increase it by their own labour. 2. Men occupied in increasing by their own labour the property, whether in land or capital, which they possess. 3. Men living by their labour without land or capital. In other words, an aristocracy, a middle class, and a labouring class. The problem is how to fuse these three elements into one whole without destroying the rights and strength of any one .-

"France is extremely new, and yet full of the past; whilst the principles of unity and equality have determined her organization, she still contains social

conditions and political situations profoundly different There is no hierarchical classification, and unequal. but there are different classes; there is no aristocracy, properly so called, but there is something which is not democracy. The real, essential, and distinct elements of French society, which I have just described, may enfeeble each other by perpetual conflicts, but neither can destroy or obliterate the other, They survive all the struggles in which they engage, and all the calamities which they inflict on each other. Their co-existence is a fact which it is not in their power to abolish. Let them then fully acquiesce in it; let them live together, and in peace. Neither the liberty nor the repose, the dignity nor the prosperity, the greatness nor the security of France, are to be had on any other terms."

Here M. Guizot becomes distressingly vague when it is most necessary to be precise. He tells us that none of these three parties ought to strive for the mastery, but that all should co-

"Let them vie with each other in influence; let each maintain its position and its rights, or even endeavour to extend and improve them, for in such efforts consists the political life of a country. But there must be an end of all radical hostility: they must resign themselves to live together, side by side, in the ranks of the government as well as in civil society. This is the first condition of social peace. How, it may be asked, can this condition be satisfied? How can the different elements of our society be brought to tolerate each other's existence, and to fulfil their several functions in the government of the country? I reply, by such an organization of that government as may assign to each its place and functions; may concede something to the wishes, while it imposes limits to the ambition, of all."

How this is to be done we are not informed, unless the passing allusion to the English constitution is to be accepted as signifying that therein lies the model for France:—an idea contradictory to the very principle insisted on in the present work, viz., that France must be governed according to the existing elements of her society.

The vagueness here noticed is the radical error of the work. In spite of its abstract manner, in spite of its earnest philosophic tone, it leaves a confused impression on the mind as if the writer himself did not distinctly know what he was desirous of enforcing. The only strong and distinct point in the work is its oppo-sition to the idea of Democracy. In summing

up, M. Guizot says :-"We have tried everything:—Republic—Empire
—Constitutional Monarchy. We are beginning our
experiments anew. To what must we ascribe their In our own times, before our own eyes, ill-success ? in three of the greatest nations in the world, these three same forms of government.-Constitutional Monarchy in England, the Empire in Russia, and the Republic in North America—endure and prosper. Have we the monopoly of all impossibilities? so long as we remain in the chaos in which we are plunged, in the name, and by the slavish idolatry, of Democracy; so long as we can see nothing in society but Democracy, as if that were its sole ingredient; so long as we seek in government nothing but the domination of Democracy, as if that alone had the right and the power to govern. On these terms the Republic is equally impossible as the Constitutional Monarchy, and the Empire, as the Republic; for all regular and stable government is impossible.

We have only to add that the translation is executed in a masterly style; and when we re-member the disgraceful negligence and ignorance that too often characterize the versions of foreign works hastily got up for the market amongst us, we may congratulate M. Guizot on having here found a worthy interpreter. The tone has been happily caught. Its gravity, its earnestness, its restrained eloquence, and its authoritative superiority are all reflected in the flexible English of the translator.

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A VALENTINE.

Lady fair! lady fair! Seated with the scornful,— Though your beauty be so rare, I were but a born fool Still to seek my pleasure there.

To love your features and your hue, All your glowing beauty,
All, in short, that's good of you,
Was, and is, my duty,—
As to love all beauty, too. But now a fairer face I've got-

A Picture's; and, believe me,
I've never looked to you for aught
That it cannot give me:— What you've more improves you not.

Your queenly lips can speak—and prove The means of your uncrowning; Your brow can change, your eyes can move, —Which gives you power of frowning: Hers have heaven's one thought, of Love.

So now I give "Goodbye!" ma belle,— And lose no great good by it: You're fair; yet I can smile "Farewell!"— As you must shortly sigh it— To your bright, light, outer shell!

WILLIAM ALLINGHAM.

#### THE ICE TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES.

The American Almanack for 1849 contains some curious statistical information respecting the Ice Trade of the above country:—which has now assumed an importance that its projectors could scarcely have anticipated .\_\_\_

an importance that its projectors could scarcely have anticipated.

"The fee Trade owes its origin to Mr. Frederick Tudor, of Boston; who, as early as 1805, conceived the idea of shipping ice to the West Indies. Finding no ship-owner willing to receive so strange an article of commerce on ship-board, Mr. Tudor was compelled to purchase a vessel, which he loaded with ice taken from a pond in Sangus belonging to his father, and despatched her to St. Pierre, Martinique. Although this venture resulted in a loss of about 4,800 dollars, Mr. Tudor continued his speculation until the embargo and war put an end to all foreign trade, at which period it had yielded no profit to its projector. The shipments had been confined to Martinique and Jamaica. After the close of the war in 1815, Mr. Tudor recommenced his operations by exportations to Havana under a contract with the government of Cuba, which enabled him to pursue his undertaking without loss, and to extend it to Charleston, Sovannah, and New Orleans. In 1833 the first cargo of ice was shipped to Calcutta by Mr. Tudor; and since that period he has extended his operations to Madras and Bombay.
"Previously to 1833 the trade had been chiefly confined to the operations of the original projector,—although several enterprises had been undertaken by other persons and abandoned. The shipments to this period were but trifling; the whole amounting in 1832 to 4,325 tons, which was taken entirely from Fresh Pond, in Cambridge, and shipped by Mr. Tudor, who was at that time alone in the trade. The business was then of a very complicated nature. Ship-owners still objected to receive ice on freight, fearing its effect on the durability of their vessels and the safety of voyages; ice-houses abroad and at home were required, and the proper mode of constructing them was to be ascertained as well as that of preparing the ships to receive the ice. The machines to cut and prepare ice for shipping and storing, and to perform the operations of hoisting it into storehouses and lowering it

great increase in the trade many or these dimensions have now been removed.

"At first implements of husbandry only were used in securing ice; but as the trade became more important, other machines and different methods were adopted. More ice is now secured in one favourable day than would have supplied the whole trade in 1832. Generally before there has

been cold enough to form ice of a suitable thickness, snow falls on its surface. If this occurs when the ice is more than four inches in thickness, and the snow is not heavy enough to sink the ice, it can be removed by using horse attached to the snow-scraper; and under such circumstances this is the method in common use. But if snow falls to such a degree as to bring the water above the surface of the ice, it is removed, after it has congealed into snow-ice, with the ice-plane, which takes off about 2 in. in depth and 22 in. in width of its surface. This machine is drawn by two horses, and is guided by inserting its girders into grooves previously made with the ice-cutter. The chips made by it are scraped off in the same manner as dry snow. These preliminary expenses are often very great. Frequently, after a large outlay has been requisite to remove a body of snow or snow-ice the weather becomes warm and spoils the ice. On the other hand, if it be not done and the cold continues, there will be little or no increase of thickness to the ice—which is equally

been requisite to remove a body of snow or snow-ice the weather becomes warm and spoils the ice. On the other hand, if it be not done and the cold continues, new other hand, if it be not done and the cold continues, here will be little or no increase of thickness to the ice—which is equally unfortunate.

"When ice has beenformed of sufficient thickness and freed from snow and snow-ice, it is reduced to blocks of uniform size—ordinarily 22 in. square—by the ice-cutter. This machine is similar to a carpenter's plough, except that it has a series of cutting chisels, one succeeding another and depening the groove. It is drawn by a horse, and cuts at one passage about 2 in. deep; and if the ice requires to be planed to remove snow-ice, the guides of the snow-plane are used in grooves of this depth,—but when grooves are required to split from, the ice-cutter must be drawn two or three times through each. When the grooves in one direction have been made, others at right angles with them are produced in the same manner. After this has been done one groove at the end is opened, and also the two outside grooves; a wedge is then struck into the grooves,—by which means the ice is reduced to very uniform square blocks. The blocks are then carried to the receiving doors of the ice-houses, which are built on the immediate borders of the lakes or ponds, either by placing them on sledges or by floating them in canals cut through the ice. The ice-houses now in use are built above ground. In scatchern countries, where ice is most valuable, they are constructed at greater expense,—usually of brick or stone; and the protection to the ice consist in air spaces or in dry light vegetable substances inclosed between two walls. On the borders of lakes, where ice is least valuable, they are usually built of wood; in which case they consist of two walls formed by placing two ranges of joist uprights framed into plates at the top, and placed in the ground at the botton, or framed into sills. These two ranges are celled with boards and mand

paid is of less pecuniary moment. In one instance brick has been used in the construction of an ice-house which covers 36,000 square feet of land. The vaults of this ice-house are 40 ft. in depth; and its walls are 4ft. thick from outside to inside, inclosing two sets of air spaces. Such a construction is more costly; but has the advantage of durability and safety from fire,—to which, paradoxical as it may appear, ice-houses are much exposed from the frequent juxtaposition of railroad-engines and the light, dry materials used about them to cover and otherwise preserve the ice.

"The methods and materials for preparing ships for the transportation of ice have been various. Formerly, their holds were ceiled up at the sides, bottom, and top, by boards nailed to joist ribs, secured to the sides of the ship, and with double bulk-heads forward and aft. The spaces thus formed were filled with refuse tan, rice hulls, meadow hay, straw, wood shavings, or like materials. These spaces were made of a thickness proportionate to the length of the voyage and with reference to the season. The surface of the ice was covered with the same materials excepting tan. Now, sawdust is used almost exclusively for long voyages. This is obtained from the State of Maine; and before being used for this purpose it was entirely wasted at the water-mills and, falling into the rivers, occasioned serious obstructions.

"Boston is the great seat of the ice trade; almost all the lakes and ponds near that city being put under refquisition to meet the demand for ice. Enormous ice-houses are constructed near the borders of the lakes, and branch railways are made for the sole purpose of carrying the ice to the place of embarkation. The celebrated Wenham Lake,—so well known to the Londoner for the crystal purity of its ice—is situated eighteen miles from Boston, and supplies immense quantities of ice for home and foreign consumption. The quantity annually sent to England averages well known to the Londoner for the crystal purity of its ice—is situated

ice is annually used for the purpose of preserving cargoes of provisions shipped to ports where otherwise such articles could not be sent. Almost the whole value of the returns of the ice-trade, including freight, are a gain to the United States. The total returns for 1817 are estimated at 507,631 dollars. The prices at which ice sells in places where there is a competition vary constantly. In Havana & is sold at six and a quarter cents per pound,—at New Orleans from half a cent to three cents,—at Calcutta when the trade commenced in 1833 the price was six cents per pound, now it averages two cents,—in London it is sold at twopence the single pound and seven shillings the hundred weight. Largo ice-houses have been erected at St. Katherine's Docks; from whence the ice is taken as required to the retail shops. The ice-houses at the lakes and ponds near Boston are capable of holding 141,332 tons of ice: but independently of these there are large ice-houses erected on the wharves at Charleston and East Boston, in which ice is stowed for short periods previously to being shipped."

It will be seen from the foregoing how important

It will be seen from the foregoing how important a branch of commerce the ice trade has grown in the hands of the enterprising Americans. The commercial marine of the United States has been materially increased by the operations of the ice trade. A large portion of the vessels formerly engaged in the freighting trade from Boston sailed in ballast; depending for remuneration on freights of cotton, rice, tobacco, sugar, &c., to be obtained in more southern latitudes,—often competing with the ships of other nations which could earn a freight out and home. Now, an outward freight from Boston can usually be obtained for the transportation of ice can usually be obtained nor the transportation or rect to those places where freighting ships usually obtain cargoes. The ice trade has generally been unsuccessful to places where profitable return-freights cannot be obtained; because to such places a heavy freight must be paid on the ice, which it cannot bear,—and also because southern places which do not produce valuable exports are usually unable to consume expensive luxuries.

#### CHURCH AT ALEXANDRIA.

In the Athenaum of last week there is a letter from Alexandria, wherein the writer deplores the unfinished state of the Anglican Church in that city,—and seems to impute want of consideration, or extravagance, to the promoters of that undertaking.

Many years ago the British residents applied to the Pasha for leave to build a church. Mohammed Ali not only granted this, but gave them for the site a portion of the square then building. In this square are situated the houses and offices of the principal merchants, some of them really palaces,—the residences of the consuls,—the bank,—and the hotels for the Indian passengers. It is, in fact, the Exchange, where the merchants meet, and where the principal

business of the country is transacted.

As it was impossible in this situation to erect an ordinary or insignificant building, this gift of the Pasha caused to the church committee a great per-plexity; and being unable to collect sufficient funds, they delayed the commencement of the building. In the year 1845, the Minister of the Pasha applied

to our Consul-General to know whether the English intended to build their church:—as if not, the space might be appropriated to other buildings, and the square be finished. Thus urged, the committee felt obliged either to commence building or to give up the ground. Several architectural designs had been the ground. Several architectural designs had been submitted to them; but as I happened to be then travelling in Egypt, I was asked to prepare a plan suited for their requirements and to the situation. I cannot undertake to explain this design without referring to drawings and constructive details, when I hope to publish at an early period; but I venture to assert that true economy has been studied throughout, and that of the money spent none has been wasted.

"Divine service is performed in a room kept on a ground-floor;" and the writer further states that, "it was in a neat condition, filled, but not crowded." This was probably exactly the state of things fifteen years ago, when the new church was proposed. Since then, Egypt has become the high road to India; the frequent steam communication brings a constant in-flux of passengers, and many remain in the country for some time. The number of British ships, also, freighted to Alexandria has immensely increased. These circumstances considered, a church to contain 400 persons on the floor does not seem any gigantic

or disproportionate undertaking.

But although the number of visitors and the com-

merce of the place have greatly increased, the resident British merchants remain but few. On them, with our consuls, the responsibility of raising funds for the Church has chiefly rested. They have well exerted themselves, and have subscribed liberally. They resolved to do at least what they could do well—and so that nothing hereafter should have to be undone; but as they have not been supported either by the public or by the Government as they had anticipated, they were obliged to stop the works in the summer of 1847.

This state of things is indeed to be regretted. Not many years ago Christians could only build their churches in obscure corners for fear of outrage. The Church at Jerusalem has but lately been finished, after long delays and the greatest difficulties caused by fanatical opposition. Not long ago no Christian could enter Damascus with a hat. Yet here, where no such fanaticism exists,—where we are even invited to show our zeal and placed in the most conspicuous situation,—where a Mohammedan prince is by far the largest subscriber to the Christian Church, we are found wanting, and the unfinished temple remains a reproach against us in the mouth of the infidels.—I remain, &c.—J. W. Wild, Architect.

\*\*\* Most of the above particulars have already appeared in the Athenæum: but they are worth re-stating here in this summary way. They contradict none of the statements of Dr. Bialloblotsky in the letter to which they purport to reply.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE books at the Stowe sale are realizing heavy prices. There is little, however, to record beyond the ordinary occurrences of common sales. A fine copy of Claude's 'Liber Veritatis' brought 401. 10s.; and an excellent copy, free from stains, of Gough's 'Sepulchral Monuments,' 611. 10s. The Houbraken Heads—fine early impressions, quite matchless indeed in that respect, but unhappily cropped and

mounted\_brought 911.

Some curious particulars concerning the state of Abbotsford at the present time are contained in Mr. Lockhart's new and abridged edition just published of his 'Life of Sir Walter Scott,' It appears that at the death of the last of Scott's children (Lieut.-Col. Sir Walter Scott) in February 1847, it was found that notwithstanding the very extensive demand for his father's writings there still remained a considerable debt to Mr. Cadell, and also the greater part of the old debt, secured on the lands. Since then, an arrangement has been effected by which the estate as well as the house and appendages are at last unfettered; Mr. Cadell in May 1847 relieving the guardians of the young inheritor of the name from much anxiety and embarrassment by taking the whole debt upon himself on the transfer to him by the family of their remaining claim over Sir Walter's writings. The present proprietor of the estate is Mr. Lockhart's only son, Walter Scott Lockhart writings. The present proprietor of the estate is Mr. Lockhart's only son, Walter Scott Lockhart Scott, a lieutenant in the 16th Lancers. The rental, it is said, does not exceed 900l. a year. To this we may add, that Mr. Cadell is in treaty for the entire of Sir Walter Scott's writings. Sums have been asked for the whole; others, it is said, offered and refused :- all so large that we are afraid to mention

Ethnological science has recently sustained a serious loss by the death of Dr. Prichard. He was well known by his great work 'Researches into the Physical History of Man,' in five volumes,—and his yet more popular 'Natural History of Man.' In addition to these, he was the author of 'An Essay on the Vital Principle,' a treatise on 'Insanity,' a book 'On the Eastern Origin of the Celtic Language,' and many other works and essays which appeared in the Medical journals. At the time of his death Dr. Prichard was president of the Ethnological Society.

"I went," says a writer from the Lake-country,
"to Grasmere churchyard, to see Hartley Coleridge
buried,—and I am glad I went. It was blowing and
anowing when I set out, but was altogether bright
before the little country hearse arrived. \* " The
little light coffin was like that of a child. Before I
came home it was neatly covered over with green
sods. The churchyard and valley were far too
green for January; and the rushing Rotha washed

the wall with a stream as full as in spring. The lake was glittering in sunshine too; but ghost-like old Helvellyn, which overhung all, was sheeted with fresh snow, and sun-touched here and there with exquisite softness."—We gave last week a reminiscence of poor Hartley Coleridge's better days, in the form of a sonnet already known to those who in these unpoetical years yet haunt the bye-places of poetry. We have had, since, put into our hands a few of the poet's later snatches of song which had not hitherto got beyond the chances of manuscript. The following is one of them; interesting chiefly for the circumstances in which it is finally laid before the outbile.

On a Picture of a very young Nun-not reading a devotional book and not contemplating a crucifix placed beside her.

So young—too young—consigned to cloistral shade, Untimely wedded—wedded, yet a maid! And hast thou left no thought, no wish behind, No sweet employment for the wandering wind,—Who would be proud to waft a sigh from thee, Sweeter than aught he steals in Araby?

Who would be proud to waft a sigh from thee, Sweeter than aught he steals in Araby? Thou wert immured—poor maiden—as I guess, In the blank childhood of thy simpleness; Too young to doubt, too pure to be ashamed, Thou gavest to God—what God had never claimed, And didst unweeting sign away thine all Of earthly good,—a guiltless prodigal; The large reversion of thine unborn love

And didst unweeting sign away thine all Of earthly good,—a guiltless prodigal; The large reversion of thine unborn love Was sold to purchase an estate above. Yet by thy hands upon thy bosom prest I think indeed thou art not quite a trest; That Christ that hangs upon the sculptured cross I snot the Jesus to redeem thy loss;—Nor will that book, whate'er its page contain, Convince thee that the world is false and vain. Even now there is a something at thy heart That would be off;—but may not, dare not start. Yes, yes,—thy face, thine eyes, thy closed lips prove Thou wert created to be loved, and love.

Convince thee that the world is false and vain. Even now there is a something at thy heart That would be off,—but may not, dare not start. Yes, yes,—thy face, thine eyes, thy closed lips prove Thou wert created to be loved, and love. Poor Malden, victim of the vilest craft At which e'er Moloch grinned or Belial laught, May all thine aimless wishes be forgiven, May all thy sighs be registered in Heaven, And God his mercy and his love impart To what thou shouldst have been—and what thou art!

Col. Sabine has, we are informed, resigned the

secretaryship of the British Association.

The Oxford Chronicle says : \_ " The new statute will, we are assured, be brought before Convocation early in the ensuing term, which commences on the 15th inst. There are to be three public examinations between matriculation and degrees, and at the final examination there will be four examination schools instead of two as heretofore. The cycle of education will be enlarged by the addition of modern moral philosophy, modern history, and various branches of natural philosophy hitherto excluded. The new statute is undoubtedly a great improve-ment on the former one; but, if the rumour is correct that political economy is to be excluded-in deference, we suppose, to the 'agricultural mind'— and that no provision is to be made for excluding Tractarian examiners from the right of refusing testi monials to those whose attainments in physical or moral science are not reinforced by Romanising views on the subject of the apostolical succession and baptism, it is obvious that the proposed step cannot be considered as more than an instalment due to the increased earnestness of the age in which we live."\_ Has any slur of the kind been thrown on examiners of any party? We doubt it. The Universities, with all their defects, we have no hesitation in affirming to have borne a very good character as to the fairness of their examinations and the absence of all bias against a candidate for his known or supposed opinions.

As an evidence that the public mind is alive to the importance of the Health of Towns movement, we may mention that between ninety and a hundred towns have already petitioned the General Board of Health to send down a superintending inspector to investigate their sanitary condition, with a view to the application of remedial measures in accordance with the new act. The duties of the staff have become so much more numerous and pressing than was expected that the Board have been obliged to appoint two additional inspectors. All the inspectors are now actively engaged in taking measures against the great enemy still hovering about our hearths.

A correspondent sends us the following suggestion. ...

You have drawn attention to a proposition made in the columns of the Builder for flooring and boarding the bases of the arches of railways in London as a refuge during night for the houseless poor. The idea is to a certain extent

good; but it is at the same time attended with disadvantages,—not the least of which will be its affording shelier to vice as well as to misery. Now, it appears to me astonishing that in this age of enormous money schemes—when millions are spoken of as thousands were but a few years since—no one has hinted at the plan of organizing, on an extremely large scale, a self-paying home for the destitute. A ragged school on this principle has been in existence in Aberdeen for some time; but in London, where a most enormous amount of misery exists, the plan has (so far as I am aware) never been proposed,—certainly never acted on. The class who would be benefitted by flooring the railway nrches are entirely destitute not only of shelter during the night, but of occupation during the day; and this fact, though proving the existence of a greater amount of misery than at first sight appears, tends to prove the practicability of my plan. I may illustrate this by referring to the "Mount Et Bernard Hospiee," established in Ham Yard, Windmill Street; which affords shelter and relief to the houseless, but from which they are discharged in the morning, to re-enter perhaps at night, but without making any return for the charity shown them. Employment on a large scale in such a city as London could certainly be found,—and carrying out the principle of the self-supporting ragged school, employment could be given to all. I am not just now prepared to offer a minute detail of the regulations, &c., necessary to carry this out. I merely throw out these hints, hoping that through your widely-spread journal they may draw attention to the plan. The outlay required, though large, would not be of enormous magnitude; and I have no doubt it would pay a good dividend to those who might embark money in this essentially charitable speculation. If it could (as I believe it can) be carried out, you will see at a glance what a power it would exert in suppressing vice.

It seems that a proposition has been made for insuring railway passengers at so much per journey, One ground laid for this scheme is, that juries are very hard upon accidents :- long may they be so! The machinery proposed is, that the assurance offices shall collect at the carriage-doors. A morning paper exposes the impossibility of employing the railway servants; and we remark on the subject, that if an odd penny or twopence dropped into the hat from the carriages would be an effective assurance juries will know what the real pressure of a werdict is upon the company,-and will probably lay it on thicker. Twopence on each fare, they will say, would pay all the verdicts for the year. Should the collecting plan come into operation, we venture to propose an amendment. Why should a man be obliged to insure himself from hat to boot :- let him insure his most valuable member. A gentleman may have good reason to feel safe about his head, but may know that he has an assailable toe. Imagine the touters at each side of the carriage, - "Head, sir: valuable part, sir; contains the brain, sir; look as if you had got some, sir."—" Right hand, sir, right hand; couldn't write without it."—" Write just as well with couldn't write without it. — Write just as well and the left, sir, (from the other door); vulgar prejudice, sir; left hand the strongest; Dutch Sam always hit his facers with the left."—" Don't believe him, sir," the first door rejoins; "Medical men all say that the right arm is full of arterial blood, and the left has nothing but venous."—" Take 'em both, sir," says a third, " for the same money, and give you your nose for the same money, and give you your nose It is really not unimaginable that carriage-door providence might lead to this and more. seems to be no evil suggested over and above the accident, except that juries find for the plaintiff. If a few pence on each fare will really be enough to compensate the unavoidable accidents, as far as money will do it, then it is clear that the railways are well able to pay and who cares how much they have to pay?—for the others,

The French Academy has elected the Duke de Noailles to fill the chair in that institution vacated by the death of M. de Chateaubriand.

The Geological Society of France has appointed M. d'Archiac, its president, and MM. Elie de Beaumont, Damour, de Wegmann, and C. Martins its vice-presidents for the current year.

The Peace project with which a body of earnest apostles are zealously inoculating the populations of our English towns is finding advocates in other senates than our own. In France, M. Bouvet has presented the following proposition for the acceptance of the National Assembly.—"Considering that war is contrary to religion, humanity, and public prosperity, the National Assembly decrees:—I. The French republic proposes to the governments of Europe, America, and other civilized countries, to concur in a congress for a proportional disarmament, the abolition of war, and the formation of a court of arbitration. 2. The Congress shall open on the 1st of May, 1849, at Constantinople."

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The Belgian Government has instituted two prizes of five thousand francs with a gold medal, and one thousand francs, respectively—the first for the best work on general agriculture, and the second for the best treatise on the disease of the potato. Foreigners are invited to compete; and manuscripts are to be sent to the Ministry of the Interior before the 1st of

sent to the silinary of the interior before the last as a sent to the silinary of the silinary of the sent that, in that, his native, city, of the Swiss historian and philologist, John Gaspard Orelli, aged sixty-two. M. Orelli took an active share in the liberation of Greece; and on the establishment of its independence the government of that country sent him letters of natu-

ralization in a box of gold.

The movement in connexion with the Queen's Colleges in Ireland has occasioned no little stir among many of the chartered institutions of this country. They exhibit an instinctive fear that under the influence of the young blood about to be brought into action, these schools will become no mean rivals to themselves; and that, consequently, a division of fees must be the result. Obstacles are eagerly sought for —objections started—in the vain hope of putting stumbling-blocks in the way of the revived schools. One great hope is in the missing charters,—for which public offices are diligently ransacked. The day is, however, past for any clique of this kind to be successful. The competition in education will tend to cessful. The competition in education will tend to improved methods of teaching,—the most successful will secure the greatest number of students: and to this must our colleges look. There appears to be no scarcity of men who feel themselves qualified for these professorships. Some ninety chairs are to be filled, and four thousand applications for them have been made. Trinity College, Dublin, having a char-ter from Elizabeth—which is missing—has been requested to adopt the Queen's Colleges into the University. This has been declined; and active steps are now being taken, in consequence, to establish a new university, to be called "The Queen's," which shall have the especial control of these establishments. The powers of Trinity, of course, object especially to this.

DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.—NOTICE.—This Establishment will be CLOSED on WEDNESDAY, the 31st instant, present of the control of th

till Four.—Admittance, ia.

THE MISSISSIPPI and MISSOURI, by BANVARD.—The elebrated MOVING PAINTING of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, extensively known as the "Three-Mile Picture," exhibiting a View of Country over 3,000 miles in length, extending through the heart of America to the city of New Orleans, being by TWICE EVERKY DAY at the EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCA-DILLY.—Admission, Lower Seats, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.
The Painting commences moving at Half-past Two and Half-past Seven p.m.—Doors open half an hour previous.

past Seven p.m.—Doors open halfan hour previous.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—A VIEW in the

GOLD DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA is just added to the New

Series of DISSOLVING VIEWS. LECUTURES on the CULTI
VATION of the VOICE, and on the ART of SINGING, by

G. (lifford, Eso., illustrated by a variety of Songs, on Tuesday,

Thursday, and Saturday, at a Quarter to Three o'clock, and on

the alternate Evenings, at Eight;—on the ELECTRIC LIGHT,

by Dr. Bachhoffner, on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Even
ings;—on GIEMISTRY, by Dr. Ryan, with brilliant Experi
ments, daily, and on alternate Evenings CHILDE'S PHANTAS
sta Quarter to Three and on the alternate Evenings. Now

CHROMATROPE. MICROSCOPE. DIVER and DIVING
BELL, WORKING MODELS explained. The Music is directed

by Dr. Wallis.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

#### SOCIETIES

GEOLOGICAL, Jan. 3. Sir H. De la Beche in the GEOLOGICAL.—Jan. 3.—Sir H. De la Beche in the chair. — A paper 'On the Fluvio-marine Beds of Hampshire,' by J. C. Moore, Esq., was read. Mr. Moore has succeeded in tracing the fluvio-marine beds of Hordwell Cliff and the Isle of Wight as far east as Beaulieu in the New Forest. They consist of yellowish sands overlying purplish clays, and contain various characteristic fossils.

'Further Observations on the Geology of Ridgway, near Weymouth,' by C. H. Weston, Esq.—The author having examined several sections of the Wealden strata between Hastings and Lulworth, found the Hastings sands to be represented by a

found the Hastings sands to be represented by a mass of variegated clays, loams and sands similar to those he had formerly described in the Ridgway section under that name. In these localities they also contain no fossils; and he thus considers his former views of the sequence of the strata in that interesting locality as fully confirmed.

'On a Siliceous Zoophyte, Alcyonites parasiticum,'
by J. S. Bowerbank, Esq.—In a small slab of agate

'An a description of the Patentee, which appeared in a contemporary journal, it is stated—absurdly enough

from an unknown locality the author observed what he considered the silicified fleshy body of a polyp resembling the Alcyonidium of our own coast. From the mammillated surface of the polypidom several smooth cylindrical tentaculæ project in various direc-tions. From these appearances he conceives that the animal had died quietly and then been rapidly enveloped in the siliceous matter. To explain the vast quantities of silex which enter into the composition of fossils Mr. Bowerbank states that there is no occasion to have recourse to thermal springs, or extreme heat and pressure, as is often done; since the amount of this earth set free during the decomposition of various rocks and minerals and carried by rivers into the sea is fully sufficient for the purpose. The numerous siliceous infusoria found, both recent and fossil, in various formations prove the abundance of this substance dissolved in the waters of the ocean. This silica in solution appears to have a strong affinity for animal and vegetable matter, and soon collects round and preserves any organic body exposed to its influence.

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS ... Jan. 8. S. Smirke, Esq. in the chair. — A paper was read 'On the various qualities of Caen Stone,' by Mr.

Society of Arts. — Jan. 17. — W. Tooke, Esq. in the chair. — A. Waterhouse, G. H. Drew, W. Standidge, and J. Gosnell, Esqs. were elected members. — Mr. E. Highton read the first part of a paper 'On Improvements in Electric Telegraphs and new Plans for District by Electricity. for Printing by Electricity.'

SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP .- Since on the 12th inst. Mr. Static's specification was completed, less uncertainty surrounds the problem of the applicability of the Electric Light. The battery, which was promised to be so inexpensive, involves all the elements of Prof. Daniell's battery; and although the mechanical arrangements are sufficiently new to obtain a patent, and are certainly ingenious, we have to derive the power which is to be converted into light from zinc and copper. The simple question now is, the cost of production,—which we fear must prove a barrier, at present, to the general use of electricity as an illuminating agent. The commercial value of sulphate of zinc being exceedingly small, Mr. Staite proposes to convert it into carbonate by adding to the waste solution of the battery the sesquicarbonate of ammonia, which he states may be employed in the same manner as white-lead now is, as a pigment. Again, Mr. Staite claims the use of platinized lead, Again, Mr. State claims the use of platinized lead, which when acted upon by dilute nitric acid gives rise to nitrate of lead, which being treated with the bicarbonate of potash produces the ordinary white-lead of commerce. Again, plates of iron are included in the specification, by the use of which sulphate of iron is formed; and, of course, in all these forms of battery the copper used in solution is precipitated. With this information we must leave our reduces to make their own calculations as to the cost readers to make their own calculations as to the cost of the electric light.

Mr. Fontaine Moreau, the patentee of M. Vidie's Aneroid Barometer, has addressed a long letter to us in answer to that of Mr. Weld [Ath. No. 1105], in which he proved that M. Conté, in 1798, devised a similar instrument, and published an account of it in the Bulletin des. Science Mr. W. Fortica M. in the Bulletin des Sciences. Mr. Fontaine Moreau says, "it is rather hard for the inventor of the aneroids, after having seen his invention treated as chimerical and impracticable, to learn now that it is not new." We freely admit that this is annoying:—but Mr. Weld stated a fact which cannot be controverted. That M. Conté did not perfect the instrument is no-thing to the point. Mr. Weld's object was merely to show "that the invention of M. Vidie's anerold barometer was anticipated by M. Conté:" we, therefore, see no reason for publishing Mr. Fontaine Moreau's letter.—As our attention has been again called to these barometers, we deem it our duty to direct observation to a statement which we have some reason for believing to contain too much truth. In his specification M. Vidie states, that he compen-sates for variations of temperature by the use of two strips of metal, of dissimilar degrees of expansibility. In a description of the "Aneroid," furnished by Mr.

\_that some gas compensates for the variations of tem-—thatsome gas compensates for the variations of tem-perature. The same agent delivered a lecture at the Western Institution, Leicester Square, in which he made a similar statement. This appears to have excited the suspicion of the manager of that estab-lishment; who in his journal, "The Index," now states it as his conviction "that there is no provision whatever in the aneroid barometer, as sold, for correc-tion of temperature." This position is supported by the fact, that "one party selling the article demands nearly double the price for one required for "ciennearly double the price for one required for 'scientific purposes' that he does for those sold to the public in ordinary." Without M. Vidie's compound "bow piece," it should be known, the instrument is valueless.

In noticing the death—on the 15th Nov., near Hazareebaugh, in the East Indies, of low jungle fever, ensuing almost immediately on his recovery from injuries sustained by a fall from his elephant of Mr. David Hiram Williams, we desire to correct an error which has appeared in some of the journals. They state that this gentleman was the Government mineral surveyor. This was not the case. Having been long employed in the geological survey of the coal-fields of Wales, under the direction of Sir Henry de la Beche, he was recommended to the East India Company as an efficient person to survey the known coal-fields of India, to explore geologically new districts, and to report on the economic value of the mineral fuel. On this important duty this able geologist was engaged when he fell a victim to the pes-tilential atmosphere of the jungles.

Among the victims to the ravages of the cholera in Glasgow we regret to announce the name of Prof.

Thomson,—who has long filled the natural philosophy chair in that university.

Lord Palmerston has, we understand, appointed Mr. Kennet Loftus naturalist and geologist to the commission which is now employed, under the direction of Lieut.-Col. Williams, in surveying the boundary line between Turkey and Persia.

A commission of the Faculty of Medicine at Paris have reported favourably on the results of the trials

which have been made with the powder of the flowers or leaves of an Abyssinian plant called Kousso as a remedy in the most obstinate cases of tænia. It has not yet been tried in this country.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. Geographical, half-past 8, r.M.

British Architects, 9. Melville 'On the Ideal Vertebra,'

For 1. Sociogleal, 9. — Dr. Melville 'On the Ideal Vertebra,'

Royal Institution, 3.—W. B. Carpenter 'On Palscontology.'

WED. The Institution, 3.—W. B. Carpenter 'On Palscontology.'

THUR. Numismatic, 7.

Antiquaries, 8.

Royal Society of Literature, 4.

Royal, half-past 8.

Royal Institution, 3.—Mr. Gull 'On Physiology of Digestion.'

Part. Philoopical, 8.

Royal Institution, half-past 8.

SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—Prof. Brande 'On Chemical Philosophy.'

#### PINE ARTS

Nineveh and its Remains; with an Account of a Visit to the Chaldean Christians of Kurdistan, and the Yezidis, or Devil-worshippers; and an Inquiry into the Manners and Arts of the Ancient Assyrians. By A. H. Layard, D.C.L.

[Second Notice.] On Mr. Layard's return to Mosul after a short excursion in pursuit of health, he received letters apprising him that "Sir Stratford Canning had presented the Assyrian sculptures, and had made over all advantages that might be derived from the order given to him by the Sultan, to the British nation; and that the British Museum had received a small grant of funds for the continuation of the researches." Notwithstanding the inadequacy of the sum\_which Notwithstanding the inadequacy of the sum—which was to include private expenses, those of carriage, and many extraordinary outlays inevitable in the East when works of this nature are in progress—he determined on accepting the charge of superintending the excavations, and economizing to the utmost in order to secure as complete a collection as possible with such small means. Many of the sculptures and monuments here were in too dilapidated a condition to be removed, and others threatened to fall to pieces as soon as uncovered. It was only by drawings that the record of them could be preserved

There was no inclination to send an artist to assist him; and he made up his mind to do the best he could to copy as carefully and accurately as possible that which he saw before him. He had thus to superintend the excavations-to draw all the basreliefs discovered-to copy, compare, and take casts of the innumerable inscriptions to preside over the moving and packing of the sculptures : and as there was no one to be trusted to overlook the diggers, he was obliged to be continually present, and frequently to remove the earth himself from the face of the We must here take the opportunity of repairing an implied injustice to Mr. Layard in a former article of ours, in which we animadverted on the removal of the inscriptions from many of the We now learn that he not only took every precaution of comparing and copying duplicate inscriptions, but even made paper casts of such as, from the rapidly progressing decay or from the edges having been cut to adapt the slabs to the less ancient buildings, it would have been impossible otherwise to preserve, and that these casts are safely deposited in the British Museum. Indeed, Mr. Layard appears to have neglected nothing that could conduce to satisfactory results. The following summary of the organization of his plan of operations will be found equally interesting and useful

"From the scarcity of corn, and the oppressive measures of Mohammed Pasha, the governor of Mosul, he had no difficulty in finding workmen amongst the distressed Arab difficulty in finding workmen amongst the distressed Arab tribes who, with their tents and families, encamped about the ruins, forming a very efficient guard against their plun-dering brethren of the Desert. The Arabs were selected to the ruins, forming a very efficient guard against their plun-dering brethren of the Desert. The Arabs were selected to remove the earth: the labour that required stronger and more active men was assigned to the Nestorian Chaldeans, many of whom had acquired experience in excavating. In addition to these, were one Bainan, a Jacobite or Syrian Christian, who was a skilful marble cutter,—a carpenter, two or three men from Mosul, as superintendents, and a valuable assistant, Mohammed Agha, Bairakdar, standard-bearer of the irregular troops."

The pext stan was to great mud brief, behitstions

The next step was to erect mud-brick habitations surrounded by a wall, for himself and his servants, on the outside of the village of Nimroud; andon the outside of the village of Nimroud; and—

"on the mound itself and immediately above the great
winged lions first discovered, he built a house for the Nestorian workmen and their families, together with a hut to which
he could at once remove for safety any small objects discould at once remove for safety any small objects disto the branches of the tribe to which they belonged. About
forty tents were pitched on different parts of the mound at
the entrances of the principal trenches. Forty more were
placed round his own dwelling; and the rest on the bank of
the river.—where the sculptures were deposited previous to the entrances of the principal trenches. Forty more were placed round his own dwelling; and the rest on the bank of the river,—where the sculptures were deposited previous to their embarkation on the rafts. The men were all armed for the defence of the establishment. The workmen were divided into parties; and it was the superintendent's duty to keep them to their work,—and to give Mr. Layard notice when a slab was approached, or small object exposed to view which the could himself assist in removing. He scattered a few Arabs of a hostile tribe amongst the rest, in order to learn what was going on,—what plots were brewing,—and thus detect attempts to appropriate any stray relies discovered. As he was directed to bury the building with earth after he had explored it,—to avoid expense, he filled up each chamber with the rubbish taken from those subsequently uncovered, having first examined the walls, copied the inscriptions, and drawn the sculptures. The Arabs sequently uncovered, having first examined the walls, copied the inacriptions, and drawn the sculptures. The Arabs entered with alacrity into the work, and soon felt greatly interested in the results. Within a few weeks they were so well organized, that there was no difficulty in managing them; even their private disputes and domestic quarrels being referred to their employer,—as they found this cheaper than litigation, and that they received an ampler measure of justice than could have been expected from the Cadi. The principal public quartels, over which his jurisdiction extended, related to property abstracted by the Arabs from one another's tents. Such cases were disposed of in a summary manner, with the aid of hand-cuffs; but the domestic dissensions were of a more serious nature, and their adjustment offered far greater difficulties—as the of in a summary manner, with the aid of hand-cuffs; but the domestic dissensions were of a more serious nature, and their adjustment offered far greater difficulties—as they related, of course, to the women. As soon as the workmen saved a few plastres, their thoughts were turned to the purchase of a new wife, a striped cloak, and a spear. To the first, the old wife naturally raised objections; then the fathers and brothers were dragged into the affair,—from women it extended to various branches of the tribes. At other times, a man repented of his bargain, and refused to fulfill it: or a father required a higher price for his daughter: or a workman returning hungry from his work, and finding his bread unbaked or the water-skin still lying empty, or the bundle of fagots for the evening fire yet ungathered, would, in a moment of passion, pronounce three times the awful sentence, and divorce his wife,—or, avoiding such extremities, would content himself by inflicting summary punishment with a tent-pole."

Mr. Layard had almost nightly to settle such Mr. Layard and almost nightly to settle such questions as these; and "it is singular," he says,—
"considering the number of cases thus brought before him, that only on one occasion did either of the parties refuse to abide by his decision. When he first employed the Arabs, the women were sorely ill-treated and subjected to great hardships. He endeavoured to introduce some reform into their domestic arrangements, and punished severely those who inflicted corporeal chastisement on their

wives. In a short time the number of domestic quarrels was greatly reduced; and the women, who were at first afraid to complain of their husbands, now boldly appealed arran to companie.

They had, however, some misgivings as to the future,—which were thus expressed by a deputation sent to return thanks after an entertainment. 'O Eey! May God reward you! Have we tion sent to return tillains atternit instruments.

we are your sacrifice. May God reward you! Have we not eaten wheat bread, and even meat and butter, since we have been under your shadow. Is there one of us that has not now a coloured handkerchief for her head, bracelets and angie-rings, and a striped cloak? But what shall we do when you leave us, which God forbid you ever should do? Our husbands will then have their turn, and there ill be nobody to help us.

The meals of the Arab workmen were brought to them at the mound by the younger children, and rarely consisted of more than a loaf of millet bread and a little water: "yet they were happy and The joke went round; or, during the short time they had to rest, one told a story, which, if not concluded at a sitting, was resumed on the following day. Sometimes a pedlar from Mosul, driving before him his donkey laden with raisins or dried dates, would appear on the mound;" where our traveller would buy up his store and distribute it amongst the men, - a largess that would excite a degree of satisfaction and enthusiasm which any one not acquainted with the character of the Arab might have thought more than equivalent to the consideration. Mr. Layard frequently, also, feasted the workand gave little

men,—that gave little "entertainments to their wives and daughters, who would not eat in public with the men. Generally of an evening, after the labours of the day were finished, some Kurdish musicians would stroll to the village with their instruments, and a dance would be commenced which lasted through the greater part of the night. Or some Sheikh of a neighbouring tribe, or from the most distant tribes of the Desert, would occasionally join them."

Mr. Layard tried-and successfully-to create a good feeling amongst all, and to obtain their willing co-operation in his work. The Arabs are naturally

to-operation in its work. The Arms are naturally hospitable and generous—disposed to give feasts.—
"If one of the workmen was wealthy enough to buy a handful of raisins or a piece of camel's or sheep's flesh, or if he had a cow which occasionally yielded him butter or sour milk, he would immediately call his friends together to partake of his feast. I was frequently invited to such to partiate of in steast. I was frequently invited to such entertainments; the whole dinner, perhaps, consisting of half-a-dozen dates or raisins spread out wide to make the best show, upon a corn sack, a pat of butter upon a corner of a flat loaf, and a few cakes of dough baked in the ashes. And yet the repast was ushered in with every solemnity; the host turned his dirty kuffish, or headherchief, and his cloak, in order to look clean and smart; and appeared both proud of the honour conferred upon him and of his means to meat it in a proper fashion."

As for himself-Mr. Layard says-

As for himself.—Mr. Layard says.—

"I rose at daybreak; and, after a hasty breakfast, rode
to the mound. Until night I was engaged in drawing the
sculptures, copying and moulding the inscriptions, and
superintending the excavations and the removal and packing of the bas-reliefs. On my return to the village, I was
occupied till past midnight in comparing the inscriptions
with the paper impressions, in finishing drawings, and in
preparing for the work of the following day. Such was our
manner of life during the excavations at Nimroud; and I
owe an apology to the reader for entering into such details.
They may, however, be interesting as illustrative of the
character of the genuine Arab, with whom the traveller is
seldom brought so much in contact as I have been."

We are sure that no reader will feel otherwise than gratified by such entertaining and suggestive matter. The sentiments evinced towards Mr. Layard at his farewell entertainment, as related in his own words, are proof of the success with which he had studied and conciliated the Arab.

studied and conciliated the Arab.—

"At the conclusion of the entertainment I spoke a few words to the workmen, inviting any who had been wronged or ill-used to come forward and receive such redress as it was in my power to afford, and expressing my satisfaction at the successful termination of our labours without a single accident. One, Sheikh Khalaf, a very worthy man, who was usually the spokesman on such occasions, answered for his companions. They had lived, he said, under my shadow, and, God be praised, no one had cause to complain. Now that I was leaving they should leave also, and seek the distant banks of the Khabour, where at least they would be far from the authorities and be able to enjoy the little they had saved. All they wanted was each man a teskere, distant banks of the Khabour, where at least they would be far from the authorities and be able to enjoy the little they had saved. All they wanted was each man a teskere, or note, to certify that they had been in my service. This would not only be some protection to them but they would show my writing to their children, and would tell them of the days they had passed at Nimroud. Please God, Isbould return to the Jebour, and live in tents with them on their old pasture grounds,—where there were as many ruins as at Nimroud, plenty of plunder within reach, and gazelles, wild bears and lions for the chase. After Sheik Khalid wild boars and lions for the chase. After Sheikh Khalaf had concluded, the women advanced in a body and made a similar address. I gave a few presents to the principal workmen and their wives, and all were highly satisfied with

Having already minutely described all the Nim roud sculptures which have arrived in England, we shall now devote ourselves to an examination of the

various chambers and halls as they disclosed themselves to view, and to an investigation of some of the

speculations of their intelligent discoverer. An acquaintance with the nature and position of the "An acquaintance with the nature and position of the ancient edifices of Assyria will at once suggest the proper method of examining the mounds which enclose them. The Assyrians appear to have first constructed a platform, or solid compact mass, of sun-dried bricks, about thirty or forty feet above the level of the plain—upon which they raised the monument. When the building was destroyed, its ruins, already half buried by the falling in of the upper walls and roof, remained of course on the platform and were in process of time completely covered up by the dust and in process of time completely covered up by the dust and sand carried about by the hot winds of summer. Conse-quently, in discount or the contract of the con in process of time completely covered up by the dust and sand carried about by the hot winds of summer. Consequently, in digging for remains, the first step is to reach the platform. When this is discovered, the trenches must be opened to the level of it, and not deeper. They should then be continued in opposite directions—care being always taken to keep along the platform. By these means, if there be any ruins, they must necessarily be discovered supposing the transher to-be long enough; for the chambers of the dasyrian edifices are generally narrow, and their walls, or the slabs which cased them if fallen, must sooner or later be reached. \*\* \* The north-west palace was the most interesting portion of the ruins—and to it the researches were principally directed: as it was not only the most ancient building yet explored in Assyria—but, as it had not been exposed to fire like other edifices, the sculptures, baseliefs and inscriptions, which it contained, were still admirably preserved. A certain symmetry was to some extent observed in the plan of the building, particularly in the arrangement of the chambers to the east: those at each extremity corresponding in form and size, and both leading into small rooms which do not communicate with any other part of the edifice. Each slab, however, in one chamber was occupied by only one figure—a gigantic with any other parts of the edifice. Each slab, however, in one chamber was occupied by only one figure—a gigantic with any other parts of the edifice. Each slab, however, in one chamber was occupied by only one figure—a gigantic with any other parts of the edifice. Each slab, however, in one chamber was occupied by only one figure—a gigantic with any other parts of the edifice star shaped or an edivided into two compariments. Amongst the colossal figures was that of a winged female deity or priestess, bearing a garland in one hand, and raising the other as if in some act of adoration. Around her neck are suspended, in the form of a double necklace, the star-shaped orname the torm of a double necknee, the sur-snapeu ornamous In front of the female figure, and forming part of the pave-ment, was a slab with a hole through the centre. On rais-ing it, an earthen pipe, eight inches in diameter and two feet in length, was found communicating with a drain run-ning underneath; the whole being lined and comented with bitumen. In the central chamber all the groups were similar; and on the outer large chamber they were chiefly remarkable for the variety and elegance of the ornaments on the robes of the king and his attendants. Three sides alone were found entire of the great central hall; which, atone were found entire of the great central mair which, from its size, was probably an open court, and not roofed in. It appears to have been nearly square,—the dimensions being ninety-five feet by eighty-five feet; but the western wall has been completely destroyed—and the slabs were perhaps carried away to be used in constructing the southwest palace. Three cutrances are still standing; the one perhaps carried away to be used in constructing the south-west palace. Three entrances are still standing; the one formed by winged lions and the other two by winged bulls. Behind the great court to the south was a cluster of small chambers leading one into another; one of these chambers being a sort of cut de suc, and remarkable for the discovery near the entrance of a number of lovery ornaments of con-siderable beauty and interest. The most interesting are the remains of two small tablets, one nearly entire, the other much injured. Upon them are represented two sitting figures, holding in one hand the Egyptian sceptre, or symbol of power. Between them is a cartouche containing a name or words in hieroglyphics, and surmounted by a feather, such as is found in monuments of the eighteenth and subsuch as is found in monuments of the eighteenth and sub sequent dynasties of Egypt. The chairs, robes of the figures hieroglyphics in the cartouche, and feather above it wer enamelled with a blue substance let into the ivory; and the whole ground of the tablet, as well as of the car part of the figures was originally gilded,—remains of the gold leaf still adhering. Several small heads in frames, supported by pillars or pedestals, most elegant in design and elaborate in execution, show not only a considerable acquaintance with the art, but an intimate knowledge of the method of working in ivory. Found with them were oblong tablets upon which are sculptured, with great deliency, standing figures, with one hand elevated, and holding in the other a stem or staff surmounfed by a flower or ornament resembling the Egyptian lotus. Scattered about were winged splynxes—the head of a lion of singular beauty, but which unfortunately fell to pieces—human heads, hands, legs and feet—buils, flowers and scroll-work.—\* In some parts of the ruins were found the remains of painted walls—two distinct layers of plaster being visible; and between the entrances were invariably large collections of baked bricks, elaborately painted with figures of animals and flowers and with cuneiform characters—the backs of these bricks, or one of the sides not acquaintance with the art, but an intimate knowledge of being visible; and between the entrances were invariably large collections of baked bricks, elaborately painted with figures of animals and flowers and with cunciform characters—the backs of these bricks, or one of the sides not coloured, bearing rude designs, in black paint or ink, of men and animals, and marks having the appearance of numbers. In one chamber on the east side a large quantity of iron was found amongst the rubbish; the scales of the armour represented on the sculptures being easily recognized. Each scale was separate, and from two to three inches in length, rounded at one end and squared at the other, with a raised or embossed line in the centre. The iron was so covered with rust that it was difficult to cleanse it from the soil. Other portions of armour were found—some of copper and of copper embossed, having holes for nails—some of iron—and others of iron inlaid with copper: all which and similar fragments have been carefully preserved and sent to England. On removing one of the slabs in one of the western chambers, a small carthen bowl or cup of baked clay of a dark red colour was discovered embedded in the wall of sun-dried bricks; and, on excavating above the southern chambers several vases of unbaked clay were found—those that were entire containing human remains, still distinguishable." found-those that were entire containing human re

The south-east corner of the mound, which was

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considerably higher than any other part, Mr. Layard considers to have been the principal burying-place of the people who occupied the country after the destruction of the oldest Assyrian palaces. He describes two that were discovered there in which apparently the elaborate slabs of the ruined Assyrian

scribes two trait were discovered there in which apparently the elaborate slabs of the ruined Assyrian palaces had been used as covers to the sarcophagi of baked clay, and contained human remains which on exposure fell to dust. Subsequently, many other tombs were found in this place.—

"The sarcophagi were mostly of the same shape, that of a dish-cover; but there were other tombs constructed of bricks well fitted together similar to those above the ruins of the editiee in the centre of the mound. In nearly all were earthen vases, copper and silver ornaments, lachrymatories, and small alabaster bottles. The skeletons, as soon as uncovered, crumbled to pieces, although entire when first exposed. Two skulls alone have been preserved. Scattered amongst these tombs were a large number of vases of all sizes, lamps, and small objects of pottry—some uniquired, others broken into fragments."

We hope that an examination of these crania may assist in discovering what race of people occupied the plains of Mesopotamia at the period of the formation of the tombs. Judging from Mr. Layard's description of the mode of sepulture, they are the same people, as the Arabs who encamp in the plains near Babylon find buried in the mounds of that city earthen jars containing human remains, and not unforced the property exposed. earthen jars containing human remains, and not unearthen jars containing human remains, and not unfrequently suspended round the neck of the body one or more of the Babylonian cylinders with other ornaments. We have heard this reported by native merchants of Bagdad, to whom these ornaments are brought for sale by the Arabs.

On examining the eastern face of the mound Mr. Layard made a very singular discovery. He

On examining the eastern face of the mound Mr. Layard made a very singular discovery. He says:—

"I had opened a trench from the outer slope, with a view to ascertain the nature of the wall surrounding the inner buildings. I found no traces of stone or of alabaster slabs; the wall being built of sun-dried bricks, and nearly fifty feet thick. In its centre, about fifteen feet below the surface of the platform, the workmen came upon a small valuted chamber, built of baked bricks. It was about ten feet high, and the same in width. The arch was constructed upon the well-known principle of vaulted roofs—the bricks being placed sideways, one against each other, and having been probably sustained by a framework until the vault was completed. This chamber was nearly blocked up with rubbish, the greater part being a kind of slag. The sides of the bricks forming the arched roof and the walls were almost vitrified, and had evidently been exposed to very intense heat. In fact, the chamber had the appearance of a large furnace for making glass or for fusing metal. I am unable to account for its use. \* \* The principal ruin at Kalak Sherghat, about thirty miles lower down the Tigris, is at Nimroud, Khorsabad, and on other ancient Assyrian sites) is a large square mound, surmounted by a cone or pyramid. Long lines of smaller mounds or ramparts enclose a quadrangle, which from the irregularities in the surface of the ground, and from the pottery and other rubbish scattered about, appears originally to have been partly occupied by small houses or unimportant buildings. Forming a facing to the great mound, is a wall of well heavn stones or slabs, carefully fitted together, and bevelled at the edges. The battlements still existing on the top of the wall are cut into gradines; resembling in this respect the battlements of castles and towers represented in the Nimroud Sculptures."

It was here that Mr. Layard discovered the

It was here that Mr. Layard discovered the basaltic sitting figure—the only round statue of the size of life as yet found in any of the ruins.

Upon resuming some further excavations at Nimroud, a drain which appeared to communicate with others previously opened in different parts of the building was discovered beneath the pavement. This is conjectured to have been the main sewer, through which all the minor water-courses were discharged. It was square—built of baked bricks, and covered in with large slabs and tiles: but unfortunately Mr. Layard has omitted to furnish us with the dimensions.

Having secured all that his resources enabled him to collect, Mr. Layard despatched his treasures down the Tigris: and as some controversy has arisen out of that particular frieze which represents the passage across a river supported on skins, it may not be uninteresting to describe the rafts which have probably for ages been the only means of traffic on the upper parts of rivers in Mesopotamia.-

upper parts of rivers in Mesopotamia.—
"The skins of full grown sheep and goats are used. They are taken off with as few incisions as possible, and then dried and prepared. The air is forced in by the lungs. The aperture is then tied up with string. A square frame-work formed of poplar beams, branches of trees and reeds having been constructed of the size of the intended raft, the inflated skins are tied to it by osier and other twigs, the whole being firmly bound together. The raft is then moved to the water and there launched. Care is taken to place the skins with their mouths upwards, that in case any should burst, or require filling, they can be easily opened by the

raftmen. Upon the framework of wood are piled bales of goods and other property. When any person of rank or wealth descends the river in this fashion, small huts are constructed on the raft by covering a common wooden takht, or bedstead of the country, with a hood formed of reeds and lined with felt. In these huts the travellers live and sleep during the journey. The poor passengers bury themselves, to seek shade or warmth, amongst the bales of goods and other merchandise, and sit patiently almost in one position until they reach their destination. They carry with them a small carthen managal, or chafing-dish, containing a charcoal fire, which serves to light their pipes and to cook their coffee and food. . . The raftmen guide their rude vessels by long oars,—straight poles at the end of which a few split canes are fastened by a piece of twine. When the rafts have been unloaded, they are broken up, and the beams, wood, and twigs are sold at a considerable profit, forming one of the principal branches of trade between Mosul and Baghdad. The skins are washed and afterwards rubbed with a preparation of pounded pomegranate skins, to keep them from cracking and rotting. They are then brought back, either upon the shoulders of the raftmen or upon donkeys, to Mosul or Tekrit, where the men engaged in the navigation of the Tigris usually reside."

We must return once more to these pages for some further illustration of the Tigris usually reside."

We must return once more to these pages for some further illustration of Mr. Layard's valuable

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—We have seen a prospectus just issued by an association of noblemen and genjust issued by an association of noblemen and gentlemen, whose objects are the diffusion of a knowledge of medieval Art-monuments by means of translations of printed works or MSS.—and of engravings to be made from pictures which have been previously either indifferently rendered or not rendered at all. The list of the Committee contains the names of several persons distinguished for their zeal and taste in Art, together with others of less well-grounded pretension. The prospectus, an elaborate affair—said to be the work of a barrister, known for his interference in matters of Art—is remarkable for its obscurity. One matters of Art—is remarkable for its obscurity. One of the translations first announced is of Vasari, with or the translations first announced is of Vasari, with the latest German and Italian notes. Among the pictures to be engraved are: —Giotto's 'Chapel of the Arena, at Padua'—the 'Church of Orvieto,' with its sculptures, fresco and pictures—the 'Chapel of Pope Nicholas V.,' by Fra Angelico—'The Ricciardi Chapel,' by Benozzo Gozzoli—the Frescoes at St. Francesco at Assisi—the Tabernacle, Frescoes and Architecture of Occamichelest Elected Architecture of Orsanmichele, at Florence - the Frescoes of Gaddi, in the Cintola, at Prato-and certain works by German painters. The title assumed is, The Arundel Society.

We have received the following in reference to some remarks of a correspondent which appeared in our paper a few weeks ago.

our paper a few weeks ago.—
21, Saville Row, Jan. 13.

In your number of December 23, under the head 'Restorations at Cambridge,' your correspondent attributes to me certain works in connexion with a failure of the northeast pier of the Tower. Permit me to say, I neither knew of the failure of the pier, nor had anything whatever to do with the attempts to restore or support it.

I am, &c. A. Salvin.

Mr. Angas has just returned to London; having been obliged to discontinue his expedition to Nineveh in consequence of an attack of Syrian fever—from whose debilitating effects he is still suffering. During his stay in Constantinople he had sufficient time to make some drawings, which it is said he intends to publish,—Mr. Layard remains attached to the Embassy at Constanstinople for the present: Col. Williams and two private gentlemen having proceeded on to make further explorations in Nineveh. When Mr. Layard will join them is not at this moment fixed.

The statue of Sir Michael O'Loghlen, late Master of the Rolls in Ireland, has been placed on its pedestal in the Hall of the Courts in Dublin. This memorial is the tribute of the Irish Bar—and the work is by Mr. M'Douall.—A correspondent of the Daily News says that Mr. Steel's equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington which has been so of the Duke of Wellington, which has been so long in progress, is now in such a state of forwardness that it may be expected to be set up on the next Waterloo anniversary.

In Paris, MM. Rude Toussaint, Dumont, Daumas, Cavelier, Nanteuil, Petitot, and Huguenin, sculptors, have been appointed by the Sculpture Section of the Academy of Fine Arts a commission to adjudge on the competition established for designs for a monutative that the property of the late Trabbility. ment to the memory of the late Archbishop of

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.
CIRQUE NATIONAL DE PARIS, EVERY EVENING.—
Extraordinary Performances of the Celebrated Equestrian Troupe
from the Circune de Paris. Children admitted at Second Price,
from the commencement of the Entertainment; Commences at
Eight octock. MORNING PERFORMANCES every WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY; Children at Reduced Prices; Commencing at Two octock.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Three Two-Part Songs; with an Accompaniment of the Pianoforte. Composed by F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. Op. 77. Posthumous Works, No. 5. THE third of these two-part songs is not so much a duett as a tiny ballad chorus, with an accompaniment duett as a tiny ballad chorus, with an accompaniment alla chitarrafor stringed quartett pizzicato; composed for six or eight soprani on words sung in Victor Hugo's 'Ruy Blas'—for which drama Mendelssohn wrote also an overture. The other two duetts, of higher quality and more delicate construction (as befits chamber music), bid fair to become as popular as the four favourities in the former collection of Menchamber music), bid fair to become as popular as the four favourites in the former collection of Mendelssohn's two-part songs. The first is 'Sonntagsmorgen,' a setting of the beautiful and well-known words of Uhland. They have been often united with music,—but never, we think, so successfully as now; the simplicity and sweetness of the melody being equalled by the deep and placid devotional feeling which pervades it. The skill, too, with which the platitude of an unbroke succession of thirds of havastemnt. which pervates it. In eskil, too, with which the platitude of an unbroken succession of thirds (always tempting to the ducti writer) is avoided, claims a particular
and cordial recognition. The second, 'Dos Achrenfeld'
('The Harvest Field'), is more sprightly in character
and of a more decided originality. Unimportant as
the composition may be rated, it nevertheless contains something very like an entirely new form. The melody beginning in a major and ending in D major is twice repeated; then, on its third repetition, pausing half-way—a code is added, which brings the duett to a close in the original key of the composition. Nothing can be more cheerful and quaint than the effect: for the device above-mentioned imparts to the composition a touch of rusticity approaching that of some home national melody. The use of unisons, too, is happy—how different from that made by the modern Italian composers! In brief, the touch of the Master is to be seen in these duetts: from which, too, may be gathered the increase of a disposition on his part as he advanced at once to simplify and to experimentalize. It is idle regretfully to speculate on what the results of this might have been,—yet who can avoid it in days at once of difficulty and of dearth like the present?

St. James's Theatre.—French Comic Opera.—Who can—if he would—do justice to a cameo hung up against a wall?—whereas, place the gem in a cabinet or a jewel-box and the connoisseur has fit means of recognizing its greatness of style and exquisiteness of workmanship.—We heard on Monday last more than one well-versed play-goer wondering at the effect and the sparkle of the now old 'Domino Noir' sung and acted by the same Angele, Domino Noir' sung and acted by the same Angele, Brigitte and Horace who appeared a couple of years ago at Drury Lane [4th. No. 981] with far less success and brilliancy. The difference lies in the locality. In King Street, Mdlle. Charton has not to strain her voice: which, when unstrained, is expressive and of a far more pleasing quality than many French organs—too often orgues de barbarie!—M. Coudere gains yet more by the reduced size of the area he has to fill: while every fine touch of his couere gains yet more by the reduced size of the area he has to fill: while every fine touch of his excellent acting—one of the best pieces of genteel comedy on the stage—tells on his audience. In a large theatre the public, unless it be treated to a certain amount of exaggeration, is apt to begin to talk of having money returned, or to wonder when will appear the beautifully dressed and imperturbable centleman with a shining hat in his when will appear the beautifully dressed and imperturbable gentleman with a shining hat in his hand and a smoother apology on his lips! Then Auber's elegant, delicate and picturesque instrumentation rendered by a band so choice as Mr. Mitchell's assumes its own peculiar charm. In short, the opera is at last felt to be one of the most delicibital comic opera in being. The filling-up of the comment of the most delicibital comic opera in being. delightful comic operas in being.—The filling-up of the corps is very good. M. Soyer, the Juliane in the 'Domino,' is cheerful and gentlemanly. M. Buguet is an unctuous though meagre Gil Perez—and M. Chateaufort as our dear countryman Lord Edfort, though unmistakeably Gallic and wizened, enacts the stiff legs and the bad language of "the bold Briton" with due spirit and Mala-propriety.—The performances began with Paer's 'Maitre de Chapelle;' in which Madame Guichard's singing is exceedingly good. The music a little outweighs the operetta. It is written in the thoroughly good style of a good time: and while it must be felt that the "something more" which Rossini gave to everything which he borrowed is wanting to it, so great is the pleasure given that we should be glad to see one of Paer's greater operas carefully revived—the chances of success, we think, being above the average.

MARYLEBONE .- On Thursday this theatre commenced a more ambitious and laudable career than it has yet adventured, in the production of a "new and original five-act drama." The piece is entitled 'Armand; or, the Peer and the Peasant, and is from the pen of Mrs. Mowatt, the American actress now starring on these boards. We believe that it has aiready been successfully produced in the United States :- we have at any rate to record its triumphant reception here. This result was deserved by the effectiveness of the situations and the several merits of the story; though it would be easy to take exceptions to certain portions of the dialogue. In the structure of the piece recourse is had to the playwright's favourite resource of begetting curiosity by means of mystery. The relations of certain parties essential to the plot are concealed until late in, or near the end of, the play. The piece is of the picturesque and romantic school-making little pretension to wit, but abounding in sentiment. In short, it is the work of a writer not without fancy and feeling, but deficient in intel-lectual vigour; though there is in its innocent vein much to please and interest an audience not so critical as to require classical severity in the produc-

tions submitted to its judgment.

The peeralluded to in the title of the play is the Duke
de Richelieu (Mr. Johnstone), Minister of King Louis the Fifteenth (Mr. H. T. Craven). The monarch has seen in the Gardens of Versailles, and conceived a passion for, the heroine of the piece, Blanche (Mrs. Mowatt), the daughter of the Duke, but, ignorant of her parentage, residing with one Dame Babette (Mrs. John--in whose humble dwelling she becomes at tached to Armand, an artizan (Mr. Davenport). To save Blanche equally from the wiles of the King and from a possible mésalliance with the peasant, Richelieu determines to administer to her a sleeping draught, under the influence of which she may be supposed dead and so removed from the neighbourhood. opportunity occurs at a festival, in which Blanche is sen for May-queen and Armand for May-king. While engaged in the dance the potion suddenly operates, and Blanche falls down and becomes in Her corse is laid out in state and visited in turns by her father, her monarch, and her lover. In an interview between the two latter, Louis, attracted by a common sympathy to Armand, presents him with a commission in the army. During their absence Blancheawakes, and is informed by Richelieu of her relation to himself; and by him persuaded, leaves the spot of her early associations. This conleaves the spot of her early associations. cludes the third act. Five years elapse — and Armand is a celebrated commander; while Blanche, still under her father's influence, has only just escaped the peril of the nunnery. At length, she and Armand become aware of each other's position, and mutually desire a re-union. In the meantime, an interview excites all the monarch's former passion for poor Blanche; and she finds herself in the house of a duchess, completely in the power of her royal seducer. She meets the temptation with virtuous scorn; and it is not long ere the lover and fatherand a grandfather to boot, (of whom we had previously taken but little note)—rush in to the maiden's rescue. Beset by their solicitations and yielding to some rather strong suggestions and motives, the King, with Richelieu's consent, surrenders the lady to her lover :- and thus all in the wonted way, are made happy.

The applause with which this play was received was, no doubt, partly due to the splendid manner in which it is put on the stage. The introductory scene of the Gardens and Palace of Versailles, and another of the Gardens of the Tuileries by sunset, are gorgeous. Some of the

success of the drama is due also to the good looks and pretty acting of the heroine. Mrs. Mowatt has here suited herself with a character-one precisely within the measure and compass of her abilities Mr. Davenport threw energy into his part; and where he had republican sentiments to deliver seemed to identify himself with the spirit of the scene. Mr. Johnstone's rough vigour in the Duke was rather out of place, though effective. We should counsel the fair author to submit her manuscript to a careful revision; abating many of the repetitions which superabound in its dialogue, and strengthening some sentences which are now so loosely expressed as sometimes to leave their meaning and propriety equally doubtful. This done, as a drama containing story and characters the play may have a chance of becoming popular.—The house was crowded—and the audience showered bouquets and wreaths in great abundance on the stage.

HAYMARKET .- On Monday was reproduced the tragedy of 'Hamlet;' with so much as was available of the cast of the Windsor Castle performance—which took place on the previous Thursday .- The gravedigger's scene was omitted from the royal entertainment,-either as being of too broad a humour for a domestic circle, or from the size of the stage not admitting of the funeral procession. The revival here is likely to be beneficial to the Haymarket management; Mr. Kean's impersonation of Hamlet having always been the most popular of his per-formances. It shows minute care in study,—and in execution has remarkable rapidity and brilliancy of The soliloquies are unrivalled pieces delivery in their way; and, in the situations, all the stage-points are elaborately worked up. There is, nevertheless, a want of metaphysical depth, of passionate reflectiveness and reflective passionateness, of student abstraction and princely reserve, in Mr. Kean's performance of Hamlet. We recognize the "form and pressure" of the character, rather than the character. There is all that the actor's art or artifice could devise or execute,—but it is too apparently the actor's art or artifice. Never was the highest perfection of art in concealing art more required than in Hamlet .- Mrs. Kean's Ophelia was a presentment which enhanced the attraction of the piece. The fourth act was charmingly interpreted; and the songs, if not sung, were chanted with clearness and effective intonation .- The general excellence of the performance gained much by the re-appearance of Mrs. Warner on these boards in the part of Gertrude. It is in such characters that this actress defies competition. In the part of the Ghost, Mr. Creswick here represented Mr. Vandenhoff at Windsor : \_ and in that of Polonius, Mr. Tilbury did duty for Mr. Farren. The First Grave-digger was supported with fine gusto by Mr. Keeley: and in this respect the audience at the playhouse had an advantage over that at the Castle

Musical and Dramatic Gossip. — Of all the economical and easy methods of walking or climbing, or creeping, or howling, or scraping, or whispering one's-self into Music just now propounded on every side with a bewildering volubility and importunity, we have met with no promise equal to one which has greeted our eyes in the daily papers, side by side with the announcement of "the distinguished arrival," from the Austin Dairy, Ohio, of the Prize Cheese weighing one thousand four hundred and seventy-four pounds—and with the declaration that "No MORE FILLS, nor any other medicine" will be needed by citizens who addict themselves to the "Revalenta Arabica food" as the staff of life.—Let all the tuneful listen—

Those ladies and gentlemen who have taste and a good ear for music, but have not leisure to learn, will find SIMP-SON'S DULCET ACCORDION a most melodious musical instrument. By the remarkably easy method contained in Simpson's Book of Instructions, price 2s., any persons, although utterly unacquainted with music, are enabled to teach themselves in one evening. The prices of Simpson's dulest accordions are from £11s. upwards; common accordions from 5s, to 15s.

Within the last half-deserved.

Within the last half-dozen years we have been invited to pay a guinea and become painters, on learning in a single lesson a method the efficacy of which was accredited by the then President of the Royal Society, amongst other accomplished and competent witnesses. But the "Dulcet Accordion" furnishes

a yet cheaper ladder into Art; since those buying it and the "Book of Instructions" and devoting themselves for one evening to the latter, have not only thenceforth Music at their fingers' ends, but also a possession worth "from £1 ls. upwards."—We do not often gather the flowers of musical eloquence; but by way of completing a winter nosegay to enliven a time devoted to merrymaking—we cannot forbear transcribing from The Dramatic and Musical Review a morsel of criticism there quoted from a provincial paper. The artist spoken of is a song-

The range of her voice, which was never beyond in natural compass, had the effect of producing in this trighthat exquisite and unsurpassable melody as to deprive the listener almost of his power of listening, in his admiration and rapture at the wonderful creature whose very eches have deprived him of the power of enjoying them.

The above prose must surely be a passage from the

The above prose must surely be a passage from the pen of our old acquaintance The Cremorne Poett. Let us here also mention Mr. Barker's ballad concert recently given, for the sake of his programme. To this were appended three pages of light reading; containing testimonials of "wonder, love and praise" concerning 'Mary Blane' and 'Reuben Rayne,' extracted from provincial Heralds, Warders, Expresses, and the like. As we are dealing with dolleries, we cannot resist the temptation of a coincidence quoted by Mr. Barker from the columns of a contemporary who edifies one of our most august and aristocratic seats of learning. Speaking of the ane-dotes with which (like Messrs. Wilson, Lover and others) Mr. Barker relieves his vocal displays...

others) Mr. Barker relieves his vocal displays...

In the course of his remarks (says the writer) he stated that the popular Negro melody of 'Mary Blane' was composed for the original Ethiopian Serenaders by him; and recorded the singular circumstance that both 'Mary Blane' and the 'White Squall,' which had produced hundreds, though offered for trifling sums, were at first refused by the music publishers... a circumstance which will remind the literary readers that the first canto of Byron's 'Childe Harold,' which complete work is said to have realised 20,000!. for the late John Murray, was hawked among all the booksellers of the east and west, and in the first instance declined at any price.

Poor Childe Harold!... he was hardly used by that

Poor Childe Harold!—he was hardly used by that somewhat coxcombical gentleman, Philip van Artevelde,—but what is this compared with being "put into the same boat" as Mary Blane?

We can only announce as in progress Miss Anne Romer's six Soirées, \_Mr. Henry Smith's series of Concerts, and those by Mr. Turner: since the programmes which we have seen are open to objections which we need not once again repeat .- On Monday, a Welsh Concert was given at the Queen's Hotel Concert Rooms, St. Martin's-le-Grand, by the Royal Eisteddfod vocalists. The list of the worthies who sang and harped bears a depressing resemblance to an advertisement in the Phonetic News, but there may be some dignity and virtue in printing for the enlightenment of Londoners their style and title in Welsh-which Artegall has recently warned us is no mark for flippant English criticism. Nevertheless, we fear that the incomprehensibility of their "bills" may have cost the Cambrian "Thrush" and may have cost the Cambrian "Thrush" and "Nightingale" their audiences: since a contemporary informs us that the two songstresses who have been gifted by the above poetic titles sing the old airs of the Principality in a superior fashion: and offer with assistance an entertainment as peculiar and interesting of its kind as that of the Rainers, after whom all London was running some twenty years ago. Having a great love for all national music, we are sorry to read that such a genuine characteristic exhibition was so badly attended-but must repeat that the fault may have lain in an advertisement which no one could comprehend.

Enough of jest about Music,—though the mirth bears its moral for those who think. We will turn to what may be called Music in earnest with a vengeance. The Morning Post of Monday last announced that Mdlle. Jenny Lind's terms for singing at concerts are 500l. Whether it be correct or not, the announcement is worthy of perpetuation,—since the sum, we apprehend, is the highest ever mentioned by way of tariff for a single performance by musical artist. Great was the offence some years ago given by Madame Pasta to the Committee of a provincial festival in consequence of her demanding 600l. for six performances; which implied the preparation of much new music. When M. List arrived in London as "a Lion," after having turned the heads of half Europe,—his honorarium for per-

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formance at a concert was thirty guineas. So that cheap and dear Art flourish, it would seem, side by side! But who can read such a statement as the above without measuring the comparative rewards of musical executant and creator?

we seem to be rapidly approaching a period at which our Italian Opera-Houses will be devoted to performances of French and German compositions (and, who knows, but Irish also, if Mr. Balfe tries again, and if Mr. Wallace sets a libretto which we are told is in his possession?) executed by Swedish, Spanish, German, Irish, French, Belgian, and Greek singers. The Gazette Musicale announces that Mr. Lumley has engaged Madame Stoltz to appear in her original part in 'La Favorità.' Her performance in the fourth act of this opera is said to be very energetic and impassioned. The other characters which the Lady is to sustain are not mentioned.

The hundred and eighth anniversary meeting of the Madrigal Society was held on Thursday last.—On the same evening an English version of Harold's 'Marie' was brought forward at the Princess's Theatre,—which we may possibly describe more in detail on

Yet another piece of diablerie ballet-ized is about to be immediately produced at the Grand Opéra of Paris for Mdlle. Cerito and M. St. Léon. The title, 'Le Violon du Diable,' would seem to indicate that the very clever gentleman's talent as a solo player on Tartini's instrument is to find occupation therein. M. Masset is engaged as baritone at the same theatre; also, M. Espinasse, a tenor, who is to appear immediately in 'Les Huguenots,' to the Valentine of Madame Viardot-Garcia. The lady is announced as being perfect in her part in 'Le Prophète,'—which is rumoured to be of a character heretofore un-

attempted in Opera.

The concerts of the Parisian Conservatoire have commenced for the season. The principal piece given at the first was Beethoven's Choral Symphony.

Revolution has impoverished the theatres of Paris to a surprisingly small amount—in respect to the number of works produced. In 1847, two hundred and sixty-seven pieces were brought forward,—in 1848, two hundred and sixty-five. There were fewer new tragedies in 1848 than in 1847—more raudevilles. Among the authors M. Clairville was the most prolific,—twenty of the pieces produced in 1848 (some of them in five acts) bearing his name. The most popular among last year's novelties—received, we are assured, with uproarious delight,—has been the unsparing quiz against the Communists—La Proprièté c'est le Fol; the scene of which is not laid precisely in M. Cabet's Paradise of Icarie, but opens in bond fide Eden. M. Clairville has commenced the new year by a thoroughly bad deed: so far as we are enabled to judge from our translation (in every sense of the word) of the feuilletons. This has been the introduction to the Théâtre Gymnase of Madame Marneffe. The lady, it may be recollected, is a leading character in one of M. de Balzac's most squalid and minute matter-of-fact novels—a creature compared with whom the redoubtable Becky Sharp herself is innocence, delicacy and unselfishness personified. Even French journalists cry "fe" at the sight of this wicked being personated by their favourite actress, Madame Rose-Chéri.—M.Lefèvre'sthree-act comedy, in verse, 'La Corruption' has succeeded at the Théâtre Français.—Mdlle. Rachel has been prevailed upon to remain at her old haunt—and dropping the Republican flag and La Marseillaise, has reappeared there in her favourite part of Camille. The Dramatic and Musical Review declares that she will probably this season perform at the St. James's Theatre, in a tangedy written by M. le Duc de Nemours. This rumour is somewhat of a choke-pear.—M. Joanny, one of the ancient actors of the Français, is just dead.

#### MISCELLANEA.

The Nearest Way to the Gold Diggings.—The discovery of the precious metal will, at least, have the effect of throwing enterprise into the hitherto neglected transit trade of the Pacific; already a vast improvement in commercial geography is on the point of being realized. An American company is to run steamers from New York to the Isthmus of Darien, whence goods and passengers will be conveyed across to Panama; from Panama a second line of steamers is to ply to Oregon and the New

Jorado of California; and a third from Panama along the coast of South America to Guayaquil, Callao, and as far as Valparaiso. A branch line is also proposed from California to the Sandwich Isles and China. The enterprise will, it is said, commence in the present month. The road from Chagres to Panama across the Isthmus is to be repaired and improved by the Government of New Grenada, from funds supplied by the American Company; and in order to encourage trade, this Government has exempted vessels frequenting the ports of the Isthmus from tonnage dues, and has reduced the duty on imports to 1 per cent. on assorted cargoes. This establishment of a regular communication across the Isthmus of Panama will do for the New World what a similar communication across the Isthmus of Panama will do for the New World what a similar communication across the Isthmus of Panama will do for the New World what a similar communication across the Isthmus of Suez has done for the Old; it will constitute an era in the history of commerce, and by bringing the ends of the earth into juxtaposition will have a powerful influence on the progress of civilization. The voyage from New York to San Francisco in California, round Cape Horn, is 17,000 English miles, and occupies a sailing vessel about five months. The two voyages from New York to Chagres and from Panama to San Francisco have an aggregate length of 6,400 miles, and will be performed by steamers in about 30 days,—or in 36 days, allowing time for the journey across the Isthmus (about 60 miles, over land 800 feet in height), and for unshipping and reshipping. The new line of communication will be of great advantage to the trade of our own country. It will reduce the length the world by accelerating the settlement and growth of a great civilized population on the western shores of North America. New California, lying betwixt the parallels of 32° and 42°, with a fertile soil, and with the Pacific on its western side to temper the extremes of heat and cold, ought to be one of the most d

Wolverton Refreshment Rooms.—It appears from the books that the annual consumption at the Wolverton refreshment-rooms averages—182,500 Banbury cakes, 56,940 Queen's cakes; 29,200 patés; 36,500 lb. of flour, 13,140 of butter, 2,920 of coffee, 43,800 of meat, 5,110 of currants, 1,277 of tea, 5,840 of loaf sugar, 5,110 of moist sugar; 16,425 quarts of milk, 1,095 of cream; 17,520 bottles of lemonade, 35,040 of soda-water, 70,080 of stout, 35,040 of ale, 17,520 of ginger-beer, 730 of port, 3,650 of sherry, and, we regret to add, 730 of gin, 731 of rum, 3,660 of brandy. To the eatables are to be added, or driven, the 85 pigs, who after having been from their birth most kindly treated and most luxuriously fed, are impartially promoted, by seniority, one after another, into an infinite number of pork pies.—Quarterly Review.

Statue of Charles I. at Charing Cross.—"A subscriber" writes.—"I think it is much to be regretted that some effectual step is not taken to restore the beautiful pedestal of Charles the First's statue at Charing Cross before the ornaments and mouldings have so entirely perished as to preclude the possibility of tracing either the one or the other.—Builder.

An Ingenious Arab.—Mr. J. R. Gliddon relates in his lectures on Egyptian Archæology, reported in the Archæological Journal of the past and present month, that "an Arab discovered the northern airchannel of the Great Pyramid to be open from top to bottom, by placing a cat at the outer orifice, and her kittens at the other, shutting them in with stones. The mother soon found her way down, through the pyramid, to her little family; thus proving that this hitherto mysterious passage communicated with the outside. Previous to the clearing of these passages the air in the pyramid was quite suffocating."

To Correspondents.—A Subscriber—T. N. C.—W. E. T. -received.
Mrs. W. P. O'N.—The verses of our old contributor, good in themselves, are of too personal a character for the

Attendents.

Mr. Peter Legil.—We have received a letter from this gentleman, in which he desires to state that when he speaks of his meteorological speculation as the "only possible theory"...he means that expression to apply only to the "attraction of the heavenly bodies." This short explanation we can find space to insert,—and we now drop the subject.

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SECOND DIVISION, IN 1832.

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THE ADVANTAGES OF THIS OFFICE, among others, are:

1. A participation septemnially in two-thirds of the Profits, which may be applied either in reduction of the Fremium, or to agament any beging either in reduction of the Fremium or to agament shad be applied either in reduction of the whole of life; the Policy continuing to participate in profits after the payment of such Premiums has ceased.

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as ceased. Assurance or Premium Fund is not subject to any charge est to Proprietors. nission to pass to Continental Ports between *Brest* and the

The inclusive.

E Parties (including Officers of the Army, Navy, East India ompany, and Merchant Service,) may be assured to reside in or rocced to all parts of the World, at Premiums calculated on real sta.

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Total Retrospective Additions to Policies up to 1st } 2288,368

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This is altogether exclusive of prospective Additions. A further Triennial Allocation will take place at 1st March, 1820.

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Policies in proportion.
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ADVANTAGES OF ASSTRING WITH THIS COMPANY. In addition to a large subscribed capital, Policy-holders have the security of an Assurance fund of more than a quarter of a million, and an income of 65,000, annually increasing, arising from the issue of upwards of 6,000 policies.

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Persons assuring on the Bonus system will be annually entitled to 50 per cent, of the profits on this branch (after payment of five yearly premiums); and the profit assigned to each Policy may be added, to the sum assured, or applied in reduction of the annual

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Premiums to Assure £100.			Whole Term.		
Age.	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits.	Without Profits.	
29	£0 17 8	£0 19 1	£1 15 10	£1 11 10	
30	1 1 8	1 2 7	2 5 5	2 0 7	
40	1 5 0	1 6 9	3 0 7	2 14 10	
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	6 12 9	4 0 11	
60	3 2 4	3 17 0		6 0 10	

One-half of the Whole Term Premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the Premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at any time without notice.

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Claims paid in one month after proofs have been approved.

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Policy Holders Capital. 2, 137,738.

Annual Income, 14 Microscopical and Science Scienc

NINETEEN TWENTIETHS OF THE PROFITS ARE DIVIDED AMONG THE INSURED

Examples of the Extinction of Premiums by the Surrender of

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured. £2300 1000 1000	Origina	l Premium.	Bonuses added subsequently, to be further increased annually.	
1806 1811 1818		£79 10 10 33 19 2 34 16 10	Extinguished ditto ditto	£1922 931 114	2 0 17 8 18 10

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.		Total with Additions, to be further increased.	
521	1807	£900	£982 12	1	£1882 19 1	
1174	1810	1200	1160 5	6	2360 5 6	

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon tion to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal tow United Kingdom, at the City Branch, and at the head O 50, Regent-street.

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PRINTING DEPARTMENT, OR PHONOTYPY,

UNDER THE SUPERINTENDENCE OF

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FELLOW OF THE CAMBRIDGE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY AND FORMERLY SCHOLAR OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

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